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International Herald Tribune

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China Tries Conciliation After Lee Victory

Urges Taiwan Talks, Saying 'Door Is Open'

By Seth Faison
New York Times Service

BEIJING — In a gesture of conciliation to President Lee Teng-hui on the day after his resounding election victory in Taiwan, China called Sunday for a meeting between Mr. Lee and its own president, Jiang Zemin, and for opening direct air, shipping and mail links across the Taiwan Strait.

"The door is open," said Shen Guofang, a Foreign Ministry spokesman, quoted by a Beijing-controlled newspaper in Hong Kong. "The obstacles today lie with the Taiwan authorities."

In Taiwan, Prime Minister Lien Chan responded by saying Taiwan leaders wanted to explore both a "peace agreement" and a long-term policy of "détente" with China.

Whether the upbeat remarks signaled a turning point, or simply an optimistic rewording of each side's still-divergent positions on the future of Taiwan, will only become clear in the coming weeks. China's leaders have previously raised the possibility of a summit meeting.

Yet, the remarks on Sunday appeared to reflect a willingness by leaders in both China and Taiwan to reduce the chance of military conflict, which has hovered ominously over the region in recent weeks. On a day when each side was watching the other carefully, it suddenly seemed conceivable — as it was not only a few days ago — that Beijing and Taipei could resume the discussions about expanding civilian ties that were suspended nearly a year ago.

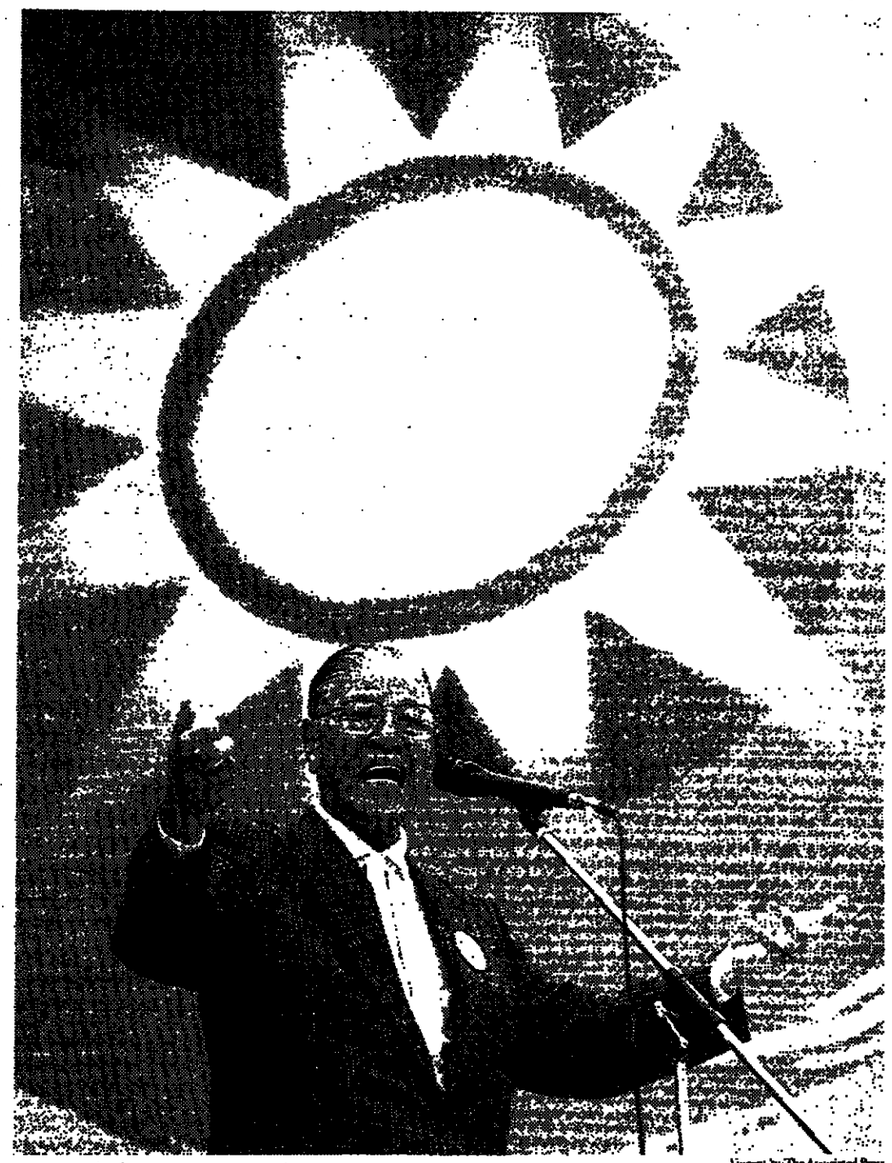
The war games Beijing has carried out near Taiwan, which sent tremors throughout Asia, and which are scheduled to end Monday, went unmentioned.

After raining insults on Mr. Lee for weeks, calling him a two-faced autocrat and sponsor of organized crime, among other names, Beijing suddenly cut the invective on Sunday. Neither Mr. Shen nor a commentary by the Xinhua press agency criticized Mr. Lee, who won 54 percent of the vote; instead, they tacitly accepted his victory, which was also reported Sunday in China's official press.

But neither China nor Taiwan offered any substantive change in their positions.

Mr. Shen warned pointedly that China would not drop its option of invading Taiwan should the island's authorities move toward greater independence from mainland China, and away from the concept of "one China" that the Communist and the Nationalist governments have each mouthed for the 47 years

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Vincent Yu/The Associated Press

Lee Teng-hui celebrating on Sunday after he won Taiwan's first direct presidential election.

Beijing's Options: Peace, More Tension, or War

By Steven Mufson
Washington Post Service

BEIJING — Over the last three months, Chinese officials have labeled Lee Teng-hui duplicitous, a "source of instability," a closet dictator, a "splittist," perverse, dangerous, unpopular, a U.S "puppet" and a traitor to the Chinese motherland who was driving his people to the "abyss."

Now they can use another label for him: freely elected president of Taiwan.

The election that Mr. Lee won Saturday with 54 percent of the vote poses a vexing problem for Communist leaders in Beijing. They can continue to vilify Mr. Lee, thus heightening confrontation and delaying progress toward reunification with Taiwan. Or they can swallow some pride and reach out to him, realizing that he has Taiwan's destiny in his hands for the next four years.

NEWS ANALYSIS

Longtime China watchers and Chinese political analysts believe Beijing has three options.

• Scenario 1: Reconciliation.

China finishes its military exercises on Monday, does "spin control" and declares that the exercises made their point, tones down its attacks on Mr. Lee, renews low-level and mid-level contacts across the Taiwan Strait, and continues to embrace Taiwanese investors on the mainland. In return, Beijing would expect Taiwan to accept China's earlier proposal to establish "three links" — direct communication, direct air flights and direct shipping — and to quietly put its drive for international recognition on hold.

"Lee Teng-hui's election is an opportunity to cool off tensions," said a Chinese political analyst with good contacts in the government and military.

There are good reasons for China to ease tensions. While the Chinese government rhetoric about reunification has been impassioned, so has its rhetoric about maintaining domestic stability. Confrontation across the Taiwan Strait damages China's economy

See TAIWAN, Page 4

Big Gains for Kohl In Regional Voting

Opposition's New Leader Fails In Effort to Stir Ethnic Tensions

By Alan Cowell
New York Times Service

BONN — Against all the odds suggested by rising unemployment and an economic slowdown, Chancellor Helmut Kohl's coalition in Bonn won a major boost Sunday from three regional elections, according to early projections. The votes will be interpreted as clues to the midterm fortunes of his administration.

Computer projections indicated that the Free Democratic Party — the junior coalition partner — increased its share of the ballots in all three states, defying forecasts of another disaster after many defeats, while the opposition Social Democratic Party suffered major setbacks compared with the last election, in 1992.

The elections took place in Baden-Württemberg, Rhineland-Palatinate and Schleswig-Holstein — three of the 16 federal states whose representatives make up the powerful upper house of Parliament.

The setback for the Social Democrats was important for two reasons. The ballots were a first test for the party's new leader, Oskar Lafontaine, who took over late last year. And the results represented a defeat for his campaign to win votes by stirring resentment of the more than a million ethnic Germans who have streamed to this country from the former Soviet Union since the end of the Cold War.

The Social Democrats had also campaigned against Chancellor's Kohl's European policies.

Equally, the successes of the Free Democrats were significant because the small, liberal party has been in decline at local and European elections for more than two years. Pre-election opinion surveys had even questioned its ability to win the 5 percent of the vote needed under German law for representation in the regional and national parliaments.

Had the party failed, the results would have dealt a deep psychological blow to the viability of Mr. Kohl's three-party coalition, which includes his party, the Christian Democratic Union; the Christian Social Union, and the Free Democrats.

As it was, the German chancellor's fortunes were reinforced by both Free Democrat percentage gains and the opposition Social Democrats' retreats.

One ominous outcome of the vote in Baden-Württemberg, which confounded most pundits, was that the far-right Republican party clung stubbornly to its place in the state legislature, albeit with a share of the vote reduced from almost 11 percent to almost 9 percent, according to projections.

In the same state, the Christian Democrats gained around 1 percent to secure 41.6 percent; the Social Democrats fell back by around 4 percent, to 25.3 percent, and the Free Democrats gained almost 4 percent, to secure 9.5 percent of the vote, projections said.

Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel, once the Free Democrat leader, called the

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Pressure Mounts on EU To Solve U.K. Beef Crisis

By Barry James
International Herald Tribune

The European Union's veterinary committee on Monday will consider new ways to calm the public's fears over fatal infection from cattle suffering from "mad cow disease," including the slaughter of millions of animals that could be at risk.

Germany, meanwhile, is expected to urge that all beef exports from Britain banned.

"Consumer protection measures that are only academic and fail to take account of the obvious lack of prevention or supervision in Britain are simply inadequate," said the German health minister, Horst Seehofer.

He said that if the EU veterinary experts stopped short of urging a ban, it would be "highly unsatisfactory."

Ireland, where cases of mad cow disease also have been reported, said it would support a total EU trade ban on British beef. The agriculture minister, Ivan Yates, said: "We are supporting measures that will effectively ringfence this problem to Britain, where the crisis actually is."

In London, the government was to issue guidance on Monday about the extent of any health risk to children.

The Observer newspaper, meanwhile, said that some ministers, including the deputy prime minister, Michael Heseltine, had tried last week to "suppress" a public alert about the possible spread of the disease to humans.

The meat scare was exacerbated last week by the government's announcement that 10 cases of the fatal Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease among young adults might have been caused by eating meat infected with mad cow disease, or bovine spongiform encephalopathy. Eight of those 10 people have died so far.

Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease destroys the brain, but it has been known mainly as a rare affliction that strikes the elderly.

Ten European Union countries already have announced precautionary bans on British beef, as have a growing number of countries outside the 15-member bloc. Arab health ministers were to meet this week to draw up a strategy to prevent any spread of the disease.

The McDonald's fast food chain struck British beef off its menus over the weekend, bowing to what it said were the concerns of consumers. A spokesman said that the company believed the British beef it had been using was safe, but that its 660 restaurants would replace it with meat from the Netherlands.

Francois-Xavier Meslin, the World Health Organization's specialist on diseases transmitted from animals to humans, said it was still a mystery why Britain should have been so massively afflicted by mad cow disease. Since the disease was identified in the mid-1980s, more than 150,000 cases have been reported in herds in the United Kingdom, including 12,000 cases last year.

A couple of hundred cases have been reported in Switzerland. Twelve have been reported in France since the disease was first reported there in 1990. Cases also have been reported in Ireland and Portugal, where a newspaper, Pub-

See BEEF, Page 10

Chinese Defiant on Shipments

U.S. Ponders Sanctions on Pakistan Atom Equipment

By R. Jeffrey Smith
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — The Chinese government has rejected a U.S. demand that it forgo future shipments of nuclear-related equipment to Pakistan, a decision that makes it more likely the Clinton administration will impose sanctions on China for past shipments of such equipment, according to senior American officials.

The officials said they were disappointed by the Chinese rebuff, which undercuts an administration plan to avoid punishing China over its involvement in the Pakistani nuclear bomb program by obtaining a commitment that nuclear-related sales would not be repeated. The Chinese rejection came during talks with an American official in Beijing last week.

The rebuff — and the renewed talk of sanctions — also suggests that U.S. relations with China are most likely to deteriorate further in coming weeks, after having been badly battered this year by a dispute over policy toward Taiwan and China's continued piracy of U.S. commercial goods.

A senior policymaker said that in 25 years of dealing with China in one capacity or another, he had "never had a more difficult regime to deal with" than the one ruling Beijing now. He said its extraordinary combination of nationalism, arrogance and paranoia had made reaching an agreement on the nuclear matter extremely difficult and eliminated almost any chance of placid relations with Washington in the immediate future.

The setback comes on the heels of another highly public scrape over the setting for a high-level meeting between American and Chinese defense officials, initially planned for Washington *early next month. When it was canceled* Friday, each nation rushed to take credit for spurning the other — demonstrating how little headway the administration has made in carrying out its new strategy of promoting more dialogue with Beijing's rulers.

The collapse of Washington's preferred strategy for handling the spread of Chinese arms left officials frustrated and uncertain about what to do next.

"We are in an incredibly difficult position and, there are not a lot of good answers for how to proceed," said one

See REBUFF, Page 4

AGENDA

Russians Shell Chechen Villages

MOSCOW (Reuters) — Russian troops bombarded villages in western Chechnya on Sunday, and the regional capital, Grozny, braced for a new rebel assault, Russian press agencies reported. Several people were reported dead in daylight shooting incidents.

Interfax said Russian commanders had given some 500 guerrillas surrounded near three villages an ultimatum to lay down their arms by 10 A.M. on Monday.

In the low-lying districts to the west and southwest of Grozny, Russian troops have been shelling suspected rebel positions for more than a week, forcing thousands of villagers to leave their homes and reportedly killing dozens of civilians.

In Grozny, where hundreds of rebels battled security forces for several days in early March, Itar-Tass said the pro-Moscow administration was on the alert against a possible new rebel attempt to infiltrate the city.



Rabih Moghrabi/Agence France Presse

ELECTION DAY IN IRAQ — Women carrying milk in Baghdad on Sunday as nationwide elections were held for Parliament. Page 10.

PAGE TWO *Montreal's Deep Malaise*

THE AMERICAS Page 3. *Dole's California Problem*

INTERNATIONAL Page 10. *Russia and Belarus Nearer Union*

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Marco Polo in China? Good Story, Writer Says, but a Myth

By Daniel Williams
Washington Post Service

VENICE — Will these attacks on Italy's contribution to world culture never stop?

First, there was that thing about how the Vikings beat Columbus to America. Then reports that pasta is bad for you. Let's not even discuss the suggestions that Mona Lisa was really a man.

Now, a new book says that Marco Polo, the legendary 13th-century Venetian traveler, never went to China. Didn't even get beyond Constantinople. Made the rest of the trip up, with the help of an imaginative ghostwriter and heavy cribbing from medieval guidebooks.

In "Did Marco Polo Go to China?" Frances Wood, who administers the China department of the British Library, leaves little doubt about her answer.

"I mean it's just too peculiar. You have to ignore too many obvious omissions in the account. The whole thing just seems made up," she said by telephone from London.

In taking on Marco Polo, Ms. Wood challenges one of the most enduring adventures of the Western world. Polo's "Description of the World," which chronicles his travels between 1271 and 1295, including 17 years in China, aroused interest about Asia all over Europe. Christopher Columbus owned a copy and made notes in the margins. Of course, Columbus never got to China, either.

Almost incidentally, Ms. Wood assaults another myth having do with Polo. Neither the Chinese nor the Italians invented pasta, she says. The Persians did, and it was transmitted by Arabs.

In Italy, confirmation that Marco Polo was but an elaborate trickster would shatter an attractive archetype. Italians like to see themselves in Polo's image: energetic, adventurous, literary. He is the model for Renaissance traders and artists and for the flood of Italian emigrants who made good around the world.

"We like to think of Marco Polo as one of the first moderns, a kind of early astronaut," said Gianfranco Bettin, deputy mayor of Venice. "For Venetians, he is a kind of trademark. We even named the airport after him."

Ms. Wood's thesis has ignited a passionate intellectual parlor game with players all over the world. Callers have been lighting up the switchboard at the British Library from as far away as Brazil and Japan expressing support or taking issue. Ms. Wood took part in a heated roundtable discussion at University College in London last week and is attending another one in France next week. A television station ferried her to China to make a report on her findings.

"It was kind of awkward," she recalled. "I had to go from place to place saying, 'Marco Polo wasn't here. Marco Polo wasn't here, either.'"

On the surface, proof of Polo's visit to China would seem to lie in the details in "Description of

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Newsstand Prices

Andorra	10.00 FF	Lebanon	L.L. 3,000
Antilles	12.50 FF	Morocco	14 Dh
Cameroon	1,600 CFA	Qatar	10.00 Riels
Egypt	EE 5	Réunion	12.50 FF
France	10.00 FF	Saudi Arabia	10.00 R.
Gabon	1100 CFA	Senegal	1,100 CFA
Greece	350 Dr.	Spain	225 PTAS
Italy	2,800 Lire	Tunisia	1,250 Din
Ivory Coast	1,250 CFA	U.A.E.	10.00 Dirh
Jordan	1,250 JD	U.S. Mil. (Eur.)	$1.20

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Shadow of Separation / **Many Are Moving Out**

Montreal's Deep Malaise

By Anne Swardson
Washington Post Service

MONTREAL — Soon, Elaine and Sidney Perzow will load up the three children and head off to rainy Vancouver, leaving behind their babysitter of 12 years, the city where Elaine grew up, her widowed father and a bilingual culture. But for the Perzows, quitting Montreal is the only choice, even though it's an expensive one.

"I'm leaving because of the economy and the bleak future here. Sometimes you have to cut your losses and start over," said Elaine Perzow, 40, a social worker. "It's hard enough to live with the kind of stresses life always presents." Then, referring to Quebec's unresolved issue of separation from Canada, she added, "This just compounds it."

The Perzows' move is one small symptom of the steep decline of Montreal. The city that once was Canada's financial and cultural center is in serious trouble. Its tax base is eroding, poverty is increasing, roads are deteriorating and, most important, citizens are leaving.

English speakers, profoundly troubled by last year's narrow defeat of a referendum on Quebec independence and fearing future battles on the issue, are leaving for other provinces and the United States. Middle-class French speakers are heading for the suburbs. Those who remain, English and French speakers alike, are pessimistic and angry.

They live in a beautiful city with a rich cultural and social life and a disappearing economy. Since Oct. 30, when Quebeckers voted by a narrow margin to remain part of Canada, one major corporation has announced it will leave Montreal; many that remain are transferring operations elsewhere.

Housing construction has fallen for eight straight years. Unemployment and poverty rates are higher than in any other major Canadian city.

"The problems of urban sprawl, of the implosion of the downtown core, put us in lockstep behind U.S. cities," said Peter F. Trent, mayor of Westmount, a largely English-speaking enclave that is part of the Montreal region. "The city of Montreal is becoming a place for immigrants, the poor and the elderly."

Nowhere on the island of Montreal is the crisis more evident than in Westmount. For sale signs dot yards on nearly every street, but not many houses are being bought. Mrs. Perzow said she has reduced the asking price of her family's house by more than $40,000, and she and her husband expect to sell it for substantially less than they paid six years ago.

Barbara Rubin Wainrib, a psychologist, has studied the emotional toll of Montreal's linguistic and separatist conflicts. Shortly after the referendum, which failed by 49.44 percent to 50.56 percent, she surveyed people on how they felt about the conflict.

More than 300 reported flare-ups of chronic illnesses, sleep problems, forgetfulness, angry spells, increased alcohol use, feelings of despair and "survivor guilt." Nearly half of all respondents said they felt life was out of balance.

But it was not just English speakers who expressed deep concerns. One old-stock Quebec woman who voted "no" on separation said her children and their spouses were so divided on the issue that family members did not speak to each other for two weeks.

These responses come from residents of a city long considered a testament to bilingualism. About 55 percent of Montrealers are native speakers of French, another 19 percent grew up speaking English, and the other 26 percent have a third language as their native tongue. But workers of all kinds shift easily from one language to another.

Montreal, which was founded in 1642 by France but fell under British control in 1763, was for centuries Canada's financial and business center and was controlled by English speakers. All that began to change in the 1960s with the election of Jean Lesage as premier and the beginning of the Quiet Revolution. French speakers began rising to positions of control in business and civic life.

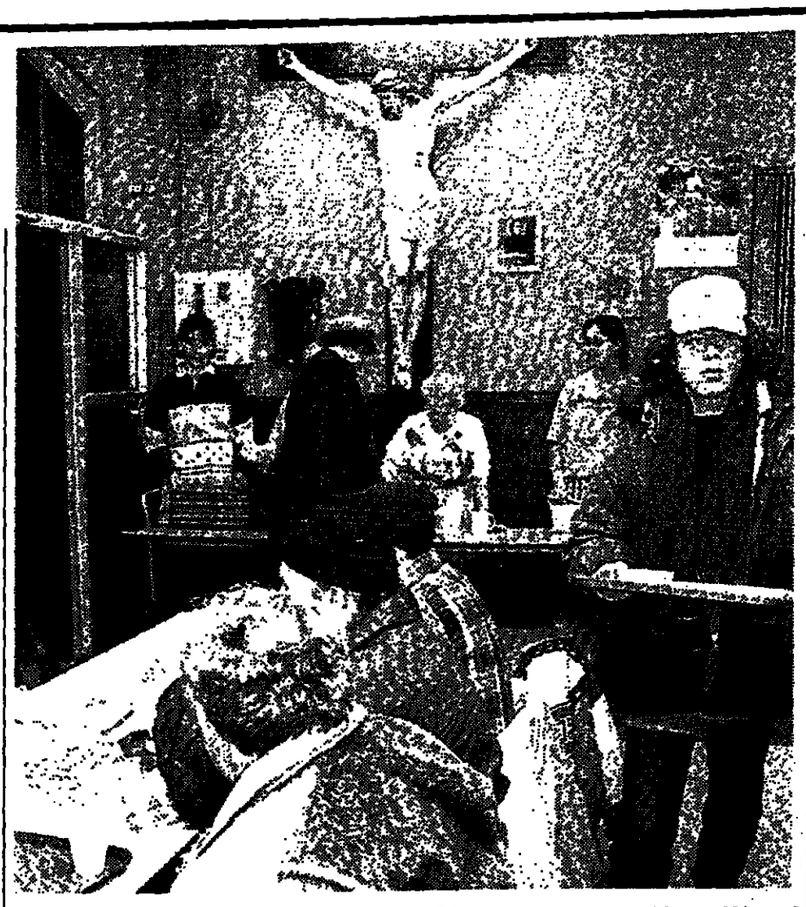
In 1976, with the election of René Lévesque, a separatist, as premier, the independence movement began to gain strength. In 1980, Quebec voters rejected separation, but concern among English speakers grew. From 1978 to 1981, more than 30 major corporations, including the Bank of Montreal, moved their headquarters out of Montreal to Toronto and elsewhere. More than 100,000 English speakers left as well.

Today, the Montreal Stock Exchange accounts for 14 percent of Canadian securities transactions, while Toronto's handles 80 percent. Five of Canada's six large banks are headquartered in Toronto. Of Canada's 200 largest companies, 73 are based in Toronto, 32 in Montreal.

In November, Canadian Pacific, one of Canada's two major railroads, announced that it would transfer its headquarters to Calgary, although it denied that the move was prompted by political considerations.

Middle-class French-speaking residents of Montreal are moving to the suburbs. Fed up with high taxes — higher, according to the newspaper La Presse, than in Toronto, Vancouver, Boston or New York — they are leaving Montreal and the 27 other communities of Montreal Island and moving to the "off-island" suburbs. From 1987 to 1994, the population of Montreal Island stood unchanged at 1.8 million, while the population of the outlying suburbs grew by 240,000, to 1.5 million.

In recent weeks, concerns have grown with the increasing popularity of an idea called "partition." The notion is that if Quebec can be separated from Canada by a democratic vote, as separatists contend, then Montreal can be separated from Quebec in the same way. Various options have been floated, including the designation of Montreal as an independent city-state within Canada.



A hostel for the homeless in the heart of once prosperous Montreal. The city has the highest poverty rate – 25 percent – of Canada's 16 largest cities.

Robert Galbraith/The Washington Post

PREMIER Lucien Bouchard of Quebec has said that the rebuilding of Montreal is an important goal, and he recently appointed a provincial cabinet minister, Serge Menard, whose sole responsibility is the Montreal region. Residents in the city voted 65 percent against the separation of Quebec.

In a telephone interview, Mr. Menard said that one of the city's most serious problems is perceptual. "What I think is bad for Montreal is the negative attitude that fear of sovereignty brings about," he said. "The people who use those arguments are intoxicated by them. There is no reason why an industry should do better or worse, regardless of whether federalists or sovereigntists are running the government."

Mr. Bouchard, in his first speech to Montreal's English-speaking community, recently said that "having a vibrant Anglophone community is in the best interests of Quebec, especially as far as the quality of Montreal's economic and cultural life is concerned."

Elaine Perzow, who watched the speech on television, said she was "very disappointed" because it had been meant "more or less to appease." Mr. Bouchard has said that a referendum on separation is inevitable, she added.

She said that in Vancouver at least there will be none of the tension she feels here.

Her son, Corey, 12, put it this way: "I'll like it in Vancouver because all the signs will be in English, and the telephone operators won't ask you what number you want in French."

COMING UP

Animosity against ethnic Germans from the former Soviet Union threatens Germany's social fabric with perhaps the most emotional collision of identities since neo-Nazis rampaged against foreigners after reunification in 1990.

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French Court Calls Off Inquiry on Rwanda Priest

Reuters

PARIS — A French appeals court has ended an investigation into charges that an exiled Rwandan priest was involved in the 1994 genocide that claimed up to a million lives in his country, according to French media.

They said the court in Nimes ruled Friday that the French magistrate investigating the Reverend Wenceslas Munyeshyaka was not competent to investigate a Rwandan national for crimes that occurred in Rwanda.

The media quoted William Bourdon, a lawyer for victims of the genocide, as urging the state prosecutor to appeal to the supreme court against the ruling, arguing that it was contrary to the 1984 New York convention on torture.

Father Munyeshyaka was being investigated on suspicion of genocide, inhuman and degrading treatment, torture and barbarism. He has been living under police control in the village of Bourg-Saint-Andéol.

Several Rwandan Tutsi witnesses who sought refuge in a Kigali church during the killing have accused him of giving Hutu militias lists of Tutsi sympathizers who were later taken away and killed.

TRAVEL UPDATE

Threat to Victoria Falls

HARARE, Zimbabwe (AP) — Conservationists warned Sunday of "serious environmental damage" to the Victoria Falls unless commercial development and tourism are severely controlled.

The International Union for the Conservation of Nature issued a study Sunday that said the rapid growth of Victoria Falls as southern Africa's busiest tourist center had stretched resources to the breaking point.

The study, commissioned by the governments of Zimbabwe and Zambia, will be debated at a two-day convention of government representatives, developers and tour operators opening Tuesday at Victoria Falls.

Scheduled flights between Amman and Tel Aviv will start on April 7, the first since a 1994 peace accord signed by the two nations, aviation officials said in Amman. *(Reuters)*

A $20 million family resort is to be built on a Manama (Bahrain) beach this year. *(AP)*

Czech doctors are to begin a two-day strike on Monday to press demands for higher fees. *(AFP)*

This Week's Holidays

Banking and government offices will be closed or services curtailed in the following countries and their dependencies this week because of national and religious holidays:

MONDAY: Cyprus, Greece.
TUESDAY: Bangladesh, Burma, Mali.
WEDNESDAY: Burma, Nepal.
THURSDAY: Nepal, Serbia.
FRIDAY: Central African Republic, Madagascar, Taiwan.
SATURDAY: India.
SUNDAY: Iran.

Sources: J.P. Morgan, Reuters.

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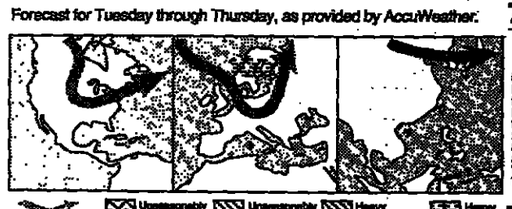
Europe

	Today High C/F	Today Low/W C/F	Tomorrow High C/F	Tomorrow Low/W C/F
Algarve	22/71	13/59 c	21/70	13/55 c
Amsterdam	13/55	6/43 pc	14/57	7/44 pc
Ankara	10/50	2/35 sh	11/52	-1/31 pc
Athens	15/59	7/44 pc	15/59	8/46 pc
Barcelona	21/70	14/57 c	23/73	17/62 pc
Belgrade	12/53	1/34 pc	11/52	2/35 pc
Berlin	9/48	1/34 pc	9/48	3/37 c
Brussels	13/55	7/44 pc	15/59	9/48 pc
Budapest	9/48	1/34 pc	8/46	2/35 pc
Copenhagen	5/41	-1/31 pc	6/43	1/34 pc
Costa Del Sol	23/73	17/62 c	23/73	15/59 pc
Dublin	13/55	6/43 sh	14/57	8/46 pc
Edinburgh	9/48	5/41 sh	11/52	7/44 c
Florence	18/64	9/48 pc	20/68	12/53 c
Frankfurt	14/57	7/44 pc	13/55	4/39 pc
Geneva	16/61	8/46 pc	18/64	11/52 pc
Helsinki	3/37	-5/22 pc	2/35	-6/22 pc
Istanbul	8/46	3/37 c	11/52	4/39 pc
Las Palmas	21/70	16/61 c	22/71	16/61 c
Lisbon	20/68	13/55 c	20/68	12/53 c
London	13/55	7/44 sh	15/59	9/48 pc
Madrid	21/70	7/44 pc	25/79	12/53 c
Milan	18/64	9/48 pc	21/70	12/53 c
Moscow	2/35	-4/25 pc	2/35	-3/27 pc
Munich	12/53	3/37 pc	13/55	6/43 pc
Nice	19/66	12/53 pc	22/71	14/57 c
Oslo	-1/31	-10/15 pc	3/37	-4/25 pc
Palma de Mallorca	19/66	14/57 c	22/71	17/62 pc
Paris	17/62	8/46 pc	18/66	12/53 pc
Prague	9/48	1/34 pc	8/46	2/35 pc
Reykjavik	2/35	-3/27 c	2/35	-2/28 c
Rome	18/64	8/46 pc	21/70	13/55 c
St. Petersburg	4/39	-6/22 pc	3/37	-3/24 pc
Stockholm	3/37	-3/27 pc	1/34	-4/25 pc
Strasbourg	15/61	7/44 pc	16/61	6/43 pc
Tallinn	2/35	-6/22 pc	1/34	-4/25 pc
Venice	14/57	6/46 pc	17/62	11/52 c
Vienna	10/50	2/35 c	10/50	4/39 pc
Warsaw	4/39	-2/28 pc	4/39	-3/28 pc
Zurich	16/61	7/44 pc	18/64	10/50 pc

Oceania

Auckland	21/70	13/55 pc	22/71	16/61 c
Sydney	25/77	18/64 c	25/77	17/62 pc

Forecast for Tuesday through Thursday, as provided by AccuWeather.



Jetstream — Unseasonably Cold — Unseasonably Hot — Heavy Rain — Heavy Snow

North America
The weather will be colder than normal in Chicago, Toronto and New York City. There may be a period of cold and wet weather in Dallas. San Francisco will be dry with near normal temperatures. Miami will be mainly dry with near normal temperatures.

Europe
Paris will have a few showers Tuesday, otherwise London and Paris will be dry with a cooling trend. Madrid and Lisbon will be warm with some sunshine, but there will be showers and even thunderstorms Tuesday. Periods of rain will dampen Rome, while dry but rather chilly weather prevails in Amsterdam.

Asia
Mainly dry in Seoul and Tokyo Tuesday through Thursday with a bit of rain possible in Osaka. Shanghai will have episodes of rain, while Beijing is mild with a couple of showers Tuesday. Hong Kong will have a shower on occasion. Singapore will be hot and muggy with a couple of thunderstorms.

Middle East

	Today High C/F	Today Low/W C/F	Tomorrow High C/F	Tomorrow Low/W C/F
Abu Dhabi	29/79	22/73 f	27/80	22/71 pc
Beirut	19/61	12/53 pc	16/59	10/50 pc
Cairo	14/57	9/48 pc	15/59	7/35 pc
Damascus	15/59	5/41 pc	9/48	1/34 r
Jerusalem	15/59	8/46 pc	11/52	4/39 pc
Luxor	22/71	4/39 s	28/79	0/32 s
Riyadh	22/71	20/68 r	29/79	16/61 c

Africa

	Today High C/F	Today Low/W C/F	Tomorrow High C/F	Tomorrow Low/W C/F
Algiers	22/71	17/62 pc	23/73	17/62 c
Cape Town	23/73	14/57 pc	28/78	17/62 pc
Casablanca	22/71	17/62 r	21/70	13/55 pc
Harare	29/86	11/52 pc	27/80	10/50 pc
Lagos	29/86	25/75 pc	31/88	27/80 pc
Nairobi	29/86	12/53 t	21/70	13/55 t
Tunis	23/73	14/57 s	29/78	16/61 s

Legend: s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice, W-Weather. All maps, forecasts and data provided by AccuWeather, Inc. © 1996

Asia

	Today High C/F	Today Low/W C/F	Tomorrow High C/F	Tomorrow Low/W C/F
Bangkok	36/88	25/77 pc	33/91	25/77 pc
Beijing	6/43	3/37 r	7/44	0/32 pc
Hong Kong	18/64	13/55 pc	22/71	17/62 pc
Manila	33/91	23/73 s	32/89	23/73 pc
New Delhi	22/89	17/62 pc	35/95	19/66 s
Seoul	10/50	2/35 pc	8/46	2/43 r
Shanghai	13/55	12/53 r	17/62	14/57 r
Singapore	32/90	24/75 pc	31/88	24/75 pc
Taipei	21/70	17/62 sh	24/75	19/64 r
Tokyo	12/53	4/39 pc	13/55	6/43 pc

Latin America

Buenos Aires	27/80	13/55 s	28/82	19/66 pc
Caracas	30/86	19/66 pc	29/84	18/64 s
Lima	25/77	19/66 pc	27/80	21/70 pc
Mexico City	23/73	10/50 pc	23/73	2/48 pc
Rio de Janeiro	27/80	23/73 c	29/84	24/75 pc
Santiago	29/84	12/53 pc	26/82	13/55 pc

North America

Anchorage	-2/28	-6/24 sn	2/35	-5/27 pc
Atlanta	18/64	7/44 s	19/66	11/52 pc
Boston	9/48	-1/31 c	10/50	1/34 s
Chicago	8/46	-2/28 s	10/50	1/34 r
Denver	18/66	-1/31 pc	9/43	-6/22 pc
Detroit	8/46	-2/28 s	11/52	0/32 r
Honolulu	28/79	19/66 pc	22/80	19/66 pc
Houston	24/75	17/62 sh	24/75	17/62 c
Los Angeles	21/70	7/44 s	21/70	9/48 pc
Miami	23/73	17/62 s	28/78	19/66 s
Minneapolis	-9/15	-4/25 pc	-1/31	-7/20 sn
Montreal	1/34	-6/22 sf	3/37	-5/23 pc
Nassau	27/80	18/64 s	27/80	20/68 pc
New York	7/44	-2/28 pc	10/50	3/37 s
Phoenix	22/71	11/52 s	24/75	10/50 s
San Fran.	17/62	8/46 pc	18/64	8/46 s
Seattle	10/50	3/37 pc	15/59	3/37 s
Toronto	2/35	-3/27 pc	8/46	-1/31 pc
Vancouver	11/52	4/39 pc	13/55	6/43 pc
Washington	10/50	1/34 s	13/55	2/35 s

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Austria +	022-903-014	Germany +	0130-0013	Monaco +	19◆0087	Syrian Arab Republic ++★	0888
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Brazil	000-8016	Indonesia (Indosat)	001-801-15	Philippines (PhilCom) ▲	102-611	United Kingdom (Mercury)	0800-89-0877
British Virgin Islands	1-800-877-8000	Indonesia (Satelindo)	008-801-15	Philippines (PLDT)	105-16	Uruguay	000417
Bulgaria ▲	00-800-1010	Ireland +	1-800022-53-2001	Poland +	00-800-111-3115	Vatican City +	172-1877
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THE AMERICAS

Could Wilson Be a Drag On Dole in California?

Governor's Unpopularity Worries Party

By Richard L. Berke
New York Times Service

LOS ANGELES — Governor Pete Wilson of California, once considered the golden boy of Republican governors, now finds himself fending off criticism from party leaders around the country who are concerned that his unpopularity here could cost Senator Bob Dole this pivotal state in November.

Mr. Wilson, who is still struggling to recover his influence after his aborted presidential bid last year, has instead only intensified tensions among many California Republicans by wresting control of Mr. Dole's presidential campaign in the state from Dan Lungren, the popular attorney general.

In a sign of Mr. Wilson's fallen fortunes, it is Mr. Lungren, not the governor, who is cited far more often as a vice-presidential prospect.

Separate surveys last week by the Los Angeles Times and the Field Poll underscore the weakness of the 63-year-old governor. Both polls show that if Mr. Wilson were on the ticket with Mr. Dole, President Bill Clinton would actually widen his lead in the governor's state.

Mr. Dole is expected to formally seal the Republican nomination in the California primary Tuesday.

"It's a problem for Dole if they persist in putting Pete Wilson out front," said Lyn Nofziger, who was a close adviser to President Ronald Reagan and now consults informally with the Dole campaign. "I think they made a mistake with him. They should never have put him in the spot of actually being in charge of the campaign out here. His people do not run a very good campaign. And conservatives in his own party don't like him."

Many prominent Republicans in California echoed those sentiments, but said they did not want to be identified for fear of offending the governor. Some are still bitter that the governor broke a pledge he made in his 1994 re-election campaign that he would not run for president; many conservatives are at odds over his support for abortion rights, among other issues.

The state Republican chairman, John Herrington, was careful not to criticize the governor, but he acknowledged the fissures in his party over Mr. Wilson.

"It's going to take a very strong effort to unify the Republican Party in California in order for Dole to be successful," Mr. Herrington said.

In an interview, Mr. Wilson, who guided Mr. Dole on a campaign swing up and down the state this weekend, blamed his low ratings on the public's dissatisfaction with politicians.

"It's an unhappy fact of current times, part of the general cynicism about politics," he said.

Asked if he would take any responsibility for his low ratings, Mr. Wilson acknowledged that "there is some reservoir of unhappiness from people who did not want me to run" for president.

Beyond what they viewed as Mr. Wilson's muscling in to take control of Mr. Dole's campaign, many Republicans question Mr. Wilson's advice, and they singled out his decision to take Mr. Dole to San Quentin Prison on Saturday as a backdrop for an event on the death penalty. They said while the event might have been appropriate for a gubernatorial campaign, it made the senator appear too harsh.

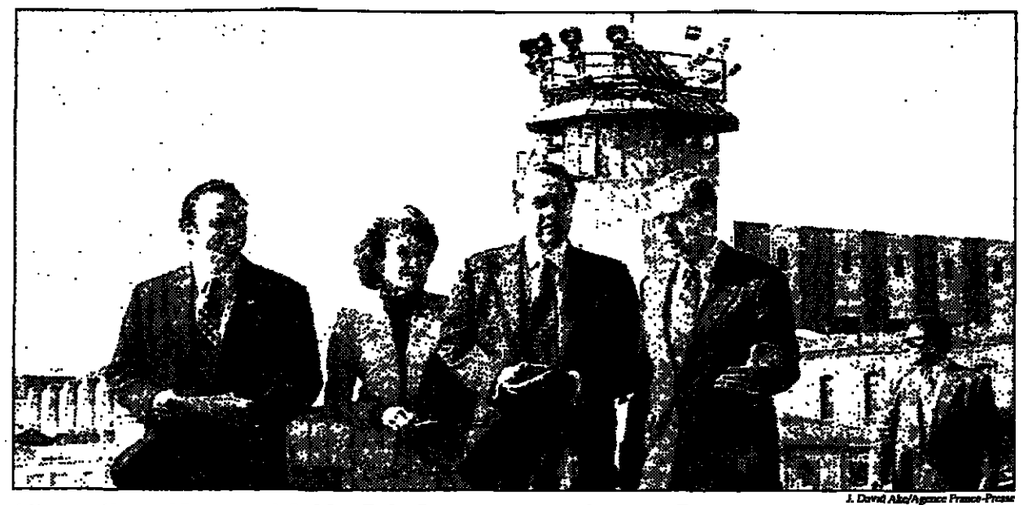
"A trip to San Quentin is not a way to show your concern for crime — going up there and looking at a bunch of people in cages," Mr. Nofziger said.

Esther Greene, a longtime Republican worker here who was a Republican national committeewoman from California from 1984 to 1988, said the event demonstrated that Mr. Wilson was putting his own interests before Mr. Dole's.

"It doesn't look to me like this campaign is as much about Dole as it is about Pete," she said.

Saying she still could not forgive Mr. Wilson for running for president, she added, "I was appalled. I thought that he had betrayed the trust."

Campaigning for Mr. Dole, it sometimes looks as if Mr. Wilson is the candidate. "I can't pretend I wouldn't like to be president," he said.



J. David Ake/Agence France-Presse

Attorney General Lungren, left, Mrs. Dole, Senator Dole and Governor Wilson walking outside San Quentin Prison after an event to show support for the death penalty in advance of Tuesday's California primary.

Away From Politics

• **After an additional 60 criminal convictions** were overturned as a result of an investigation into police corruption in Philadelphia, the agencies involved say the impact has only begun to be felt. So far, 116 convictions have)been overturned in cases involving six police officers who pleaded guilty to charges including illegal searches, lying under oath and planting false evidence. In all, 1,800 convictions are being reviewed. *(NYT)*

• **The former mayor of Los Angeles, Tom Bradley, 78,** was hospitalized in stable condition in that city, recovering from a heart attack he reportedly suffered at a fast-food restaurant. *(AP)*

• **Fewer Americans contracted tuberculosis** last year despite a worrisome increase in the disease in a few states in the nation's heartland, the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported. The 6.4 percent drop in cases, to 22,812 from 24,361 in 1994, followed drops of 5 percent in 1993 and 4 percent in 1994 *(AP)*

• **A woman who had taken fertility drugs** gave birth to sextuplets, hospital officials in Albany, New York, said. The babies were due June 16, but doctors said both they and the mother were healthy. *(AP)*

POLITICAL NOTES

Clintons Face a Trust Gap

WASHINGTON — Beverly Hill, a Democrat who lives in central Kentucky, doesn't think President Bill Clinton did anything illegal in the Whitewater land deal being investigated by a Senate committee and an independent counsel.

But she does believe Hillary Rodham Clinton did. "I don't know that I can put my finger on any one thing, but I thought maybe she knew some things he didn't," said Ms. Hill, 36, who works at city hall in Elizabethtown.

Ms. Hill is not alone. A Washington Post-ABC News survey suggests that many more Americans now believe the first lady broke the law in the failed Arkansas real estate venture known as Whitewater.

Two years ago, a national survey by The Post showed that fewer than one in three respondents thought she had broken the law. But in a poll of 1,512 randomly selected adults that was conducted March 14-17, roughly half said they believed Mrs. Clinton had broken the law. Half of the respondents said they thought she was not telling the truth about Whitewater. For some, Mrs. Clinton's January appearance before a grand jury in Washington that has been investigating the land deal was a galvanizing moment that strongly suggested wrongdoing on her part.

"Whitewater seems to keep popping back," said Dan Leader, 49, who oversees a cheese manufacturing plant in northeastern Nebraska. "It doesn't really die. It fades away and then it comes back: There's Hillary going to the grand jury."

Although there appeared to be partisan splits among many of those surveyed, there were Democrats and independents who registered grave concerns about the Clintons' handling of Whitewater, a controversy that has dogged them in significant ways for more than a year.

Conversely, there were sizable majorities of voters who disapprove of the way Republicans in Congress have investigated Whitewater. Nearly 70 percent said the hearings conducted by a special Senate committee were held chiefly to embarrass the Clinton administration rather than investigate legitimate issues.

As for the news media coverage of Whitewater, nearly 70 percent said there was too much national attention focused on the case. *(WP)*

White House Isn't Amused

NEW YORK — The boss of a radio host said no apologies are necessary for the off-color jokes made about the president and his wife at a Washington dinner they attended.

"Our position is that they absolutely knew what Don Imus is before he was invited to the dinner," Joel Hollander, manager of Mr. Imus's flagship station, WFAN, said in the New York Daily News.

Mr. Hollander reacted to the outrage expressed by Mr. Clinton's press secretary, Michael McCurry, after the Thursday night performance at the 52d annual dinner for the Radio and Television Correspondents Association.

With Mr. and Mrs. Clinton sitting only a few feet away, Mr. Imus joked about Mr. Clinton's extramarital affairs and the first lady's alleged financial peccadilloes.

"We all know you're a pot-smoking weasel, that you once ate an apple fritter the size of a baby's head and that you actually run a 12-minute mile," Mr. Imus said.

Mr. Clinton was photographed grimacing at one of the lines. Mrs. Clinton reportedly sat stone-faced. Mr. McCurry called it all "tasteless." *(AP)*

Quote/Unquote

Representative Patrick J. Kennedy, Democrat of Rhode Island, whose uncles, President John F. Kennedy and Senator Robert F. Kennedy, were assassinated, before the House voted to repeal the ban on assault-style firearms: "Families like mine all across this country know all too well what the damage of weapons can do. You will never know what it's like because you don't have someone in your family killed." *(AP)*

Representative Gerald B.H. Solomon, Republican of New York, responding to Mr. Kennedy's comments: "My wife lives alone five days a week in a rural area in upstate New York. She has a right to defend herself when I'm not there, son. And don't you ever forget it." *(AP)*

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ASIA/PACIFIC

Lee, With 54% of Taiwan Vote, Celebrates a Landslide

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

TAIPEI — Cradling children in his arms and handing a bottle of champagne to cheering supporters, President Lee Teng-hui of Taiwan celebrated his landslide election victory Sunday by promising to work on improving relations with China.

Shopkeepers set off firecrackers to greet Mr. Lee as he began a tour of the island to meet voters who for the first time elected their own president.

Beijing has demonized Mr. Lee as an independence-seeker who wants to dump the doctrine that China and Taiwan are one country. But Taiwanese voters gave Mr. Lee 54 percent of the vote in Saturday's election.

Still, just one day after Mr. Lee's triumph, newspapers were urging him to heal the rift that has led China to test-fire missiles and hold menacing war games close to Taiwan.

Mr. Lee did not signal any concessions, but said: "We will seek further development in our mainland relations. We will do it well."

"I know you want stability, and you want to make money. Let's strive together for it," he said to roars of appreciation from a crowd of 2,000.

"The past few weeks were a very difficult time," he said. "People rushed to buy U.S. dollars and sold their homes as missiles were fired. But everything is different today. We have won a big victory, a victory for democracy."

Mr. Lee won over three challengers — Peng Ming-min, who advocated independence, and Lin Yang-kang and Chen Li-an, who sought to reaffirm Taiwan's desire for reunification with China.

Market analysts, meanwhile, believe Taiwan's sagging financial markets — a casualty of China's military threats — will rebound because of Mr. Lee's strong showing. The government has spent hundreds of millions of dollars to prop up Taiwan's currency and stock prices since China began war games two weeks ago.

Despite government intervention, the Taipei stock market has fallen 4 percent this year. On Saturday, a newspaper quoted official figures that investors have pulled $5 billion out of Taiwan.

But Mr. Lee's election by an unexpectedly wide margin should restore investor confidence in Taiwan, market watchers said Sunday.

"The stock market is poised to rally Monday in celebration of Lee's resounding victory," said Tu Jin-lung, vice president of Grand Cathay Securities Corp.

Often lost amid Beijing's attempts at intimidation was the drama of Taiwan emerging from four decades of martial law and single-party rule to become one of Asia's liveliest democracies.

Some disappointed supporters of Taiwanese independence said they took solace from Mr. Lee's resounding victory and Mr. Peng's second-place finish. Mr. Lee won so handily because many traditional backers of the independence party deserted it this time to vote for Mr. Lee, who many contend quietly shares the goal of gradual separation from China.

Mr. Lee consistently has said that he supports Taiwan's eventual unification with China, but that it can only come after China becomes more democratic. This stand embraces most of the independence party's positions without actually uttering the word independence.

Mr. Peng offered no analysis of why he lost, saying he might write a book about his campaign experiences.

"A defeated general doesn't discuss the war," he said at a press conference at the party's headquarters. "I don't like to make instant analysis now."

Many Taiwanese seemed glad simply to have participated in this landmark exercise — billed as the first time a Chinese society has democratically elected its leader. Even the losers were gracious and their supporters called the vote a victory for Taiwan's process of democratization. About 76 percent of the country's eligible 14 million voters went to the polls.

One young man at Mr. Lee's victory rally told a reporter: "We are very proud. Even though I didn't vote for Lee Teng-hui, I am proud of our democracy." *(AP, WP)*

Beijing Panel Votes to Scrap Hong Kong's Legislature

Washington Post Service

BEIJING — China's handpicked Hong Kong Preparatory Committee voted by a margin of 148 to 1 on Sunday to scrap the British colony's elected legislators and install an appointed body to run the territory when it reverts to Chinese sovereignty on July 1, 1997.

The lone voice of dissent did not go unnoticed — or unpunished. Hong Kong radio quoted the top Chinese official on Hong Kong, Lu Ping, as saying that the one dissenting delegate should be thrown off the transitional bodies planning Hong Kong's post-1997 government, and off any governing role after the British withdraw.

The Preparatory Committee is made up of Chinese and pro-Beijing Hong Kong personalities, many of them leading business figures. Legislators who want more democracy in the colony and who won a majority of seats in elections in Hong Kong have been left off the committee.

So its decision was widely expected. The surprise was that Frederick Fung, chairman of the Hong Kong Association for Democracy and People's Livelihood, refused to go along despite pressure from the panel's chairman, the Chinese foreign minister, Qian Qichen.

The near-unanimous vote stood in contrast to the elections that took place the day before in Taiwan, where for the first time voters cast ballots to select their president.

President Jiang Zemin of China, who is also leader of the Communist Party, urged Taiwan last year to reunify with the mainland on the basis of the "one country, two systems" model that is being applied in Hong Kong.

■ 'A Black Day,' Governor Says

The news about the vote in Beijing was greeted bleakly by the governor of Hong Kong, Chris Patten, who called it "a black day,' Agence France-Presse reported.

"This is a black day for democracy in Hong Kong," Mr. Patten said in a statement after hearing the news.

"A Chinese government-appointed body of Chinese government officials and handpicked Hong Kong advisers has voted to tear down a legislature which was freely, fairly and openly elected by the people of Hong Kong in the most democratic election in our history," he said.

Mr. Patten praised the dissenting Mr. Fung, saying Hong Kong would "salute" him.

Japanese Leader Wins A Symbolic Victory

By Kevin Sullivan and Mary Jordan
Washington Post Service

TOKYO — The administration of Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto won an important symbolic battle on Sunday in a parliamentary special election in mountainous central Japan.

Tsuyako Ono, the widow of a member of Parliament from Mr. Hashimoto's Liberal Democratic Party who died in office last month, was overwhelmingly elected to fill her husband's Upper House seat over a challenger from the main opposition party.

The election in Gifu Prefecture has been seen here as a bellwether of support for the Hashimoto government, which has been stalled by its plan to spend $6.8 billion of taxpayer money to bail out bankrupt housing lenders in a crisis similar to the U.S. savings and loan debacle in the 1980s.

The results of Sunday's election, the first balloting for national office since Mr. Hashimoto became prime minister in January, give Mr. Hashimoto a boost he sorely needed.

"The support of the voters at this crucial moment was very meaningful," said Koichi Kato, party secretary-general.

For the last 20 days, Mr. Hashimoto's government has been virtually immobilized as legislators from the main opposition party, Shinshinto or the New Frontier Party, have staged a round-the-clock sit-in in Parliament to physically block consideration of a budget containing the bail-out funds.

Shinshinto, led by Hashimoto archrival Ichiro Ozawa, has been using the bailout issue to inflict maximum political damage on Mr. Hashimoto.

The sit-in, along with a AIDS-related scandal at the Health Ministry, has paralyzed Mr. Hashimoto's government less than a month before President Bill Clinton arrives for a state visit.

Mr. Hashimoto, who has made the U.S.-Japan relationship the cornerstone of his administration, has seen his approval ratings drop from more than 60 percent when he took office to 36 percent this month.

The Gifu election was the public's first chance to weigh in on the controversies. Shinshinto's blunt sit-in tactics have been extremely unpopular with the public, but the bailout is even less popular. Recent polls show that only 12 percent of voters want to use public money to bail out failed lenders.

Now Mr. Hashimoto has more leverage. Observers have speculated that Mr. Hashimoto, who has until now avoided using force to remove demonstrating legislators, may use the Gifu results as a mandate to remove them and push through his budget.

The results also represent a certain element of Mrs. Ono's family's influence in Gifu, a beautiful region of immense mountains and clear rivers near Japan's west coast. Her husband was the son of a former party vice president who wielded immense power in national politics in the 1950s and 1960s.

Banboku Ono was primarily responsible for making Japan's first high-speed bullet train route run through Gifu, complete with a stop at a small town where Mr. Ono's statue still stands outside the train station.

A recent poll by Asahi found that while 64 percent of Gifu voters opposed the bailout plan, they still planned to vote for Mrs. Ono, the party candidate. She received about 398,000 votes, while her Shinshinto opponent won about 227,000. A Communist party candidate received 162,000 votes.



Kazuhiro Nogi/Agence France-Presse

Stalling debate on Japan's budget, parliamentary members of the opposition New Frontier Party continuing a candle-lit sit-in on Sunday outside the Tokyo conference room used by the Diet budget committee.

TAIWAN: *China Watchers Say Beijing Has 3 Post-Election Options: Reconciliation With Taipei, Maintaining the Tensions, or War*

Continued from Page 1

and thus its stability. Taiwan is the second biggest foreign investor in China. Even partial U.S. sanctions could choke off billions of dollars of exports by Chinese companies and workers.

Moreover, although China claimed that intimidation tactics weakened support for the Taiwanese pro-independence candidate, privately it probably realizes that the strategy has been a failure, alienating Taiwanese citizens, irritating the United States and Asian neighbors, and perhaps igniting an Asian arms race.

China wants the foundation for reconciliation to be President Jiang Zemin's eight-point plan of January 1995, in which he advocated a "one country, two systems" arrangement similar to Hong Kong and declared that "Chinese should not fight fellow Chinese."

The Xinhua news agency over the weekend quoted Deng Xiaoping's position from the early 1980s suggesting that Taiwan might retain its own military forces after reunification. Short of independence, everything is negotiable, Foreign Ministry officials have said.

After campaigning against Chinese intimidation, it would be politically impossible for Mr. Lee to openly abandon efforts to gain international recognition. But luckily, Beijing does not expect him to. It says that it does not believe what he says anyway, and so he can speak with "deeds" instead, and quietly put his international campaign on a back burner.

"Beijing does not want Lee to do anything. It wants him to stop doing things," said Chas. W. Freeman, Jr., former U.S. assistant secretary of defense. "Beijing will then match Taipei's restraint with its own. No political provocations from Taipei will translate into no military provocations from Beijing."

- Scenario 2: Continued tension, but no armed conflict.

After vilifying Mr. Lee and blasting the United States for interference, it will be tough for Beijing to gracefully climb down from its confrontational position, especially with American warships standing by. Many hard-line voices also will argue that China should keep pressure up until the U.S. flotilla leaves, so that the United States appears to give way first.

"I would be very surprised if Beijing tried reconciliation," said Brantly Womack, political science professor at the University of Virginia. "Big countries are slow to anger and slow to calm down. Having committed themselves to a more confrontational posture, they aren't likely to back down."

- Scenario 3: Conflict.

Are China and Taiwan on a collision course? No matter how reasonable it might seem for both sides to cool tensions, it may be impossible to reconcile Taiwan's yearning for independence and freedom with China's desire for reunification and control.

"I am pessimistic and afraid that some sort of overt conflict is quite likely," said Huang Yasheng, professor at the University of Michigan. "This whole issue of increasing Taiwan's diplomatic space is going to be a long-run trend," Mr. Huang said.

Whatever concessions Mr. Lee may make are "tactical and do not reflect a fundamental change in direction," he said. "Taiwan is a democracy now and there is a structural demand for more international recognition."

China's missile diplomacy has left little room for maneuvering, in Beijing or Taipei. It "deprives Lee of a political option to back down," Mr. Huang said. "No leader can back down under this kind of political pressure even if he wants to."

The chances of conflict could rise further if Mr. Lee, comforted by an American show of naval force and U.S. congressional resolutions, pushes even harder for diplomatic recognition for Taiwan, including high-level visits abroad and a campaign for a United Nations seat.

Mr. Freeman argues that China will not do anything precipitous given its military limitations. If Mr. Lee presses the limits of Beijing's patience, he said, the Chinese Army "will then argue for and get the budget for a long-term buildup to be able to take Taiwan by force around 2006."

CHINA: *Saying 'Door Is Open,' Beijing Calls for a Summit and Urges Direct Links*

Continued from Page 1

since civil war separated them.

Whether tensions now ease, Mr. Shen said, hinges on whether Taiwan's authorities pursue a policy of independence. Beijing will not be satisfied with conciliatory statements, he said, but only by conciliatory acts.

Although he did not request any specific ones, Chinese leaders have been infuriated by Mr. Lee's attempts to have Taiwan enter the United Nations and by his visit to the United States last year. A promise not to do either again would certainly be on their list.

In Taiwan, Mr. Lien, who ran as Mr. Lee's running mate to become vice president, did not raise any specific proposals either, and he took a cautiously optimistic approach toward China's offering.

"On the question of a peace agreement, we are interested in seriously thinking about it," Mr. Lien told reporters in Taipei. "A lot of preparations need to be done for that.

"We should pursue a policy of détente," Mr. Lien also said. "I am basically optimistic, but I think it will take time."

Mr. Shen renewed the proposal made by Mr. Jiang in 1995 that urged Taiwan to lift its ban on direct trade, air and shipping ties across the Taiwan Strait, as part of China's effort to increase Taiwan's contacts with the mainland, and decrease its ties to the rest of the world.

"We have never had a positive reaction from the Taiwan side," Mr. Shen said.

In the same way that he blamed the recent tension between the mainland and Taiwan squarely on Taipei, Mr. Shen added that the strain in Chinese-American relations was entirely the fault of Washington.

He urged Washington to take a "a more stable, more wise policy" toward China, and said its recent actions were interpreted by Taiwan as a sign that the United States supports "separatist" activities on the island.

Two U.S. aircraft carriers, dispatched to the Pacific Ocean near Taiwan, have already provoked objections from China.

■ U.S. Offers Congratulations

The United States congratulated Taiwan's people on their first direct presidential election and said it hoped China would now ease tensions, The Associated Press reported from Washington.

"We congratulate the people of Taiwan on their first election," said a White House spokeswoman, Mary Ellen Glynn. "They have made great strides in the past several years toward democracy. We hope to see tensions in the Taiwan Straits greatly reduced in the days to come."

REBUFF: *China Spurns U.S. on Nuclear Nonproliferation*

Continued from Page 1

policymaker about the task of breaking through China's unwillingness to accommodate U.S. concerns.

Several officials noted that these concerns involved more than just the highly publicized case of China's sale to Pakistan last year of specialized magnets for use in centrifuges that enrich uranium, a key ingredient of nuclear arms.

Also at issue are China's sales to Iran of anti-ship cruise missiles and equipment useful for making chemical weapons, as well as China's overall cooperation with Pakistan's missile and nuclear programs.

Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Robert Einhorn raised these matters in Beijing last week, but China refused to pledge it would halt its cooperation with Pakistan and Iran, officials said.

"He was treated nicely, but essentially he got nothing," said one official.

Another official said Washington's initial ambition of obtaining a joint, public U.S.-Chinese statement or a unilateral Chinese pledge not to engage in arms proliferation activities had been scaled back by the time Mr. Einhorn left to merely obtaining China's private commitment to continue the discussions at an unspecified future date.

China's argument with Mr. Einhorn reportedly hinged in part on a claim that the magnets in question are allowed to be exported because they do not appear on an agreed list of nuclear-related items subject to controls under the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, which China has signed.

While this point may be technically correct, "it is a legalistic argument, and the substance is that they are assisting the Pakistani nuclear program," said Leonard S. Spector, a specialist on nuclear proliferation at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

Richard H. Solomon, who was assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific affairs during the Bush administration, said, "I don't believe politically we can flinch" from imposing sanctions for the magnet sale, given China's apparent reluctance to promise it will stop.

Otherwise, he said, "the hard-liners in the Chinese government would get the wrong idea" that the United States is willing to accept such sales.

Once the administration formally certifies that China has assisted Pakistan's development of nuclear arms, as officials say it is now certain to do, a 1994 U.S. law requires the administration to disapprove roughly $10 billion in pending Export-Import Bank financing for U.S. business deals in China.

But President Bill Clinton can waive this sanction if he decides that the deals are vital to "U.S. national interests," and many officials predict he will do so on grounds that the sanction would hurt U.S. businesses more than China.

Mr. Clinton would then have the flexibility to pick from a number of other possible sanctions, officials said, although they declined to specify the types of measures under consideration.

"Obviously, since we haven't to our own satisfaction solved the problem it's more likely that we have to do something that the other side is going to find unpleasant," said one senior official.

Officials stressed that no decisions had been made.

North Koreans Close Steel Mill

The Associated Press

SEOUL — North Korea, suffering acute fuel shortages, has shut down its largest steel mill, losing one of its few remaining sources of foreign currency, South Korean officials said Sunday.

The Kim Chaik ironworks had been the pride of North Korea's Communist enterprises, producing millions of tons of steel. The plant used to account for 60 percent of the North's iron production.

But the collapse of the Soviet Union deprived North Korea of a key oil supplier, forcing it to reduce operation in most of its factories.

Last year, only one of the Kim Chaik mill's three furnaces was operating. The operation has now come to a complete stop, according to officials of the South Korean Unification Board, a ministry in charge of relations with the North.

The shutdown caused the North's steel exports to the South to drop to $4.4 million in February from $14 million in February 1995, they said.

BRIEFLY

Nepal Leader Survives A No-Confidence Vote

KATMANDU, Nepal — Nepal's prime minister, Sher Bahadur Deuba, survived a parliamentary no-confidence vote on Sunday, escaping the fate of his Communist predecessor who was defeated by a similar motion only six months ago.

The 106-to-90 vote came after five of Mr. Deuba's ministers, all members of his junior coalition partner, the National Democratic Party, withdrew their resignations and said they would vote with the government.

The no-confidence motion was proposed by former Prime Minister Mana Mohan Adhikari, who was removed from power in September through a parliamentary vote sponsored by Mr. Deuba's Nepali Congress Party. *(Reuters)*

Kabul Shelling Kills 18

KABUL — Rebels shelled Kabul on Sunday, killing 18 civilians and wounding 14 others in a busy shopping street, witnesses and officials said.

One shell crashed into the Shahr-i-Nau district in central Kabul in the middle of the day, killing six people. Twelve others died of injuries, hospital sources said.

It was part of a salvo that hit the city around lunch time as front-line fighting between forces loyal to President Burhanuddin Rabbani and the Taleban Islamic militia intensified.

A Defense Ministry official blamed Taleban for the attack, part of a renewed bombardment of Kabul after a lull of several weeks.

The government-controlled Kabul radio said Saturday that government planes had bombed Taleban positions in Charasiyab and Rishkor, killing 40 Taleban fighters and wounding 20 others. There was no word from Taleban on casualties. *(Reuters)*

Jaffna Offensive Is Seen

COLOMBO — The Sri Lankan military, in a move to recapture territory held by Tamil Tiger rebels, is expected to open a new offensive in the northern Jaffna Peninsula, a government newspaper reported Sunday.

"A major military buildup is under way in the north for what is being billed to be the largest-ever security forces' offensive to recapture more territory currently held by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam," the Sunday Observer said.

The rebels also said government forces were preparing a new operation. *(Reuters)*

Kim Aide Faces Arrest

SEOUL — Government prosecutors sought an arrest warrant for a former presidential aide Sunday, in a move that may further damage the governing party before next month's parliamentary elections.

The Prosecutor's Office accused Chang Hak Ro of receiving $180,000 from three business executives who allegedly wanted him to use his influence to protect their companies.

Mr. Chang, a long-time aide to President Kim Young Sam, resigned last week after the main opposition party accused him of having amassed $4.8 million in secret funds. Mr. Chang has said the money belonged to his girlfriend, and that she earned it at her restaurant and coffee shops. *(AP)*

VOICES From Asia

Shen Guofang, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman, on the weekend election in Taiwan: "Regardless of what election the Taiwan area holds and the results of the election, there are two things that it cannot change — one is that Taiwan is a part of China and the second is that the Taiwan leader is a local leader." *(Reuters)*

Sher Bahadur Deuba, prime minister of Nepal, after surviving a no-confidence vote: "I am happy and I thank all the party leaders and members for their support. I will now speed up my program and I am ready to talk to the opposition to redress their problems." *(Reuters)*

EUROPE

On Eve of Decisive Talks, EU Ponders Divisions

By Tom Buerkle
International Herald Tribune

BRUSSELS — As European Union leaders prepare to open a constitutional conference this week to reform the bloc for the 21st century, the gap between Europe's economic and political challenges and the willingness of leaders to confront them together is as wide as ever.

Europe's sense of inadequacy has grown acute through the bloc's failure to contain the war in the former Yugoslavia or the recent Aegean dispute between Greece and Turkey, as well as its inability to stem the mounting tide of unemployment at home.

Those failings have created a new sense of urgency about the conference, a yearlong negotiating marathon that EU leaders will open Friday in Turin. Chancellor Helmut Kohl of Germany last week called the talks "the most decisive, historic event of this and the next century" for Europe.

But if Europe's leaders agree on the stakes involved, they remain divided over whether and how to deepen their political integration, a legacy of the bitter fights over the 1991 Maastricht Treaty on European Union and the current uncertainty over fulfilling Maastricht's promise of a single currency.

While Germany and the Benelux countries continue to push for deeper integration in areas like foreign policy and crime-fighting, the British government of Prime Minister John Major set out an uncompromising negotiating stance earlier this month. It vowed to fight against any further shift in powers from national capitals to EU bodies like the European Parliament or European Court of Justice.

Between the two extremes lies France. The government of President Jacques Chirac has met Germany halfway with proposals for beefing up Europe's foreign-policy apparatus, but it also has flirted with London by seeking to reinforce the clout of national capitals, including calling for a new council drawn from national parliaments to curb the power of Brussels.

And on the fringes, Europe's smaller countries are eager to prevent a dilution of their voice in EU affairs, while Mediterranean and Nordic blocs advance their own regional aims.

"There is a very real danger of Europe losing its momentum, of Europe losing its ability to project stability, of Europe becoming a club of quarreling nations without much of a political message," said Michael Stürmer, director of the German think tank Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik. "If you have to carry 350 million voters, you must have a vision."

The lack of a unifying vision puts Europe's destiny more than ever in the hands of its two leading powers, France and Germany. And the success of the conference will hinge on whether Mr. Kohl and Mr. Chirac can persuade their partners to agree to a far greater degree of flexibility in EU relations than Europe's founders envisaged.

By allowing countries to opt out of policies rather than blocking them, the Kohl-Chirac proposal aims to skirt the problem of national vetoes and create an inner circle of states, with France and Germany at the center, that are "ready and willing to go further or faster than the others in areas like the single currency or defense," Prime Minister Alain Juppé explained in a speech earlier this month. France already has proposed creation of a 300,000-member mobile army to give Europe the force to back up its foreign-policy aims.

Karl Lamers, the parliamentary foreign-policy spokesman of Mr. Kohl's Christian Democrats, who caused a furor in Europe two years ago when he first proposed deeper integration among a German-led hard core of states, said a flexibility clause in Europe's governing treaties held the key to the deeper political cooperation Germany demands as a condition for a single currency.

"It may be that we will not be able to have as much progress as we Germans want," Mr. Lamers said in an interview. "But if we are able to have such a clause, it may be only a short time before we have a solid core."

A hard-core solution looks all the more compelling given Europe's promise of membership to 12 countries in Eastern and Southern Europe, which is the driving force behind the reform conference.

Protecting the Princess: Accident Renews Worries

Diana's Refusal of Protection Called 'Lunacy'

Reuters

LONDON — Princess Diana flew off for a Caribbean holiday with her sons after being badly shaken in a multiple car crash that sparked police despair about her refusal to accept their protection.

Diana was at the wheel of a borrowed car and apparently traveling without escort when she was involved in a five-car pileup in central London Friday night.

One senior police source told the Sunday Mirror newspaper that Diana's refusal of round-the-clock protection was "lunacy," especially since they fear that Irish Republican Army guerrillas are targeting members of the royal family.

Security has been stepped up around the royal family since the IRA resumed a bombing campaign last month, but Diana says bodyguards interfere with her privacy.

Detectives fear the crash could pinpoint the potential vulnerability of Diana, who has agreed to a divorce from her estranged husband, Prince Charles.

The newspaper said senior police officers were "in despair" over her refusal to even give them details of her movements. "It is lunacy for the Princess of Wales to drive around by herself like this," a top police source told the paper. "We understand her desire for privacy. But we are going through a particularly dangerous time and she must learn to appreciate that."

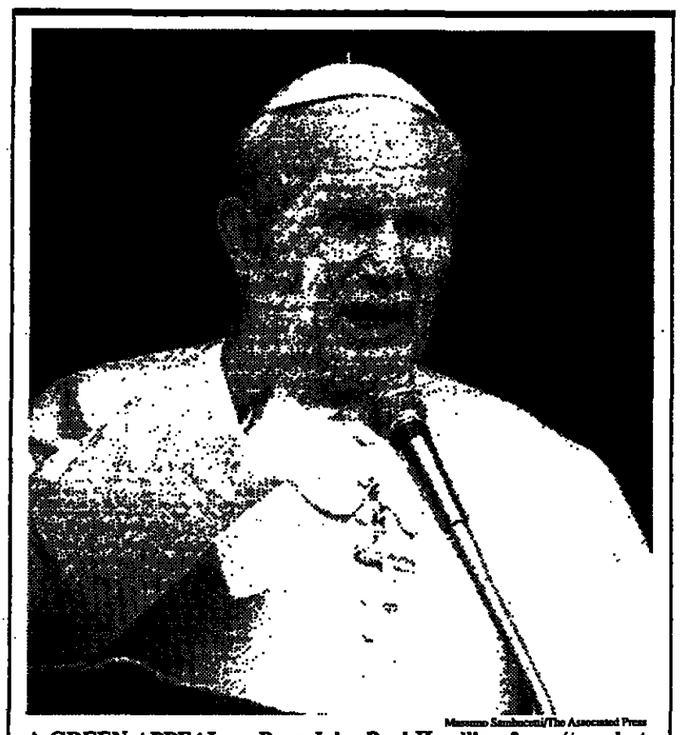
"Half the time we don't know where she is or what she does," he added.

Diana is likely to face further police demands that she submit to their protection when she returns with Princes William and Harry from Barbuda.

The Sunday Mirror said the crash occurred when a London casino doorman lost control of a Porsche sports car he was trying to park. He rammed a stationary car, propelling it into the path of passing vehicles, including Diana's BMW.

One witness said she looked pale and shocked after the crash and spent two minutes composing herself before getting out of the car.

After the crash, Diana followed her security training and hailed a taxi to take her to the nearest police station in Chelsea. She was then driven back home by the police.



Massimo Sambucetti/The Associated Press

A GREEN APPEAL — Pope John Paul II calling for a "use but not abuse" philosophy to rescue the world from possible ecological crisis in an address on Sunday to pilgrims in St. Peter's Square.

Q & A / **Lamberto Dini**

Turin and the Treaty

Prime Minister Lamberto Dini of Italy will greet other leaders of European Union governments next Friday in Turin for the start of the Intergovernmental Conference that aims over the next year or so to agree on ways to reform EU institutions, better coordinate foreign and defense policy and plan for voting ahead of future enlargement of the EU to include new members from Central and Eastern Europe. Mr. Dini discussed the upcoming summit meeting, Europe's economic outlook and Italy's general election on April 21 with Alan Friedman of the International Herald Tribune.

Q. On the eve of the Turin meeting, Europe seems more divided than ever. Since Italy currently holds the EU presidency, tell me what chances of progress there are and what the top priorities will be at the Intergovernmental Conference.

A. There are divisions in Europe, no question about it. But what will be foremost in the minds of heads of government going into Turin will be how to get the EU and the idea of unity closer to the average citizen. Too often EU decisions are taken in a bureaucratic way without regard for the citizen. We have produced a lot of directives that were seen as excessive and unnecessary, even an irritant for companies and business. We need a more level playing field for companies in Europe.

Q. And what is the most important result you will be seeking from your fellow government heads in Turin?

A. In order to keep the process of European integration on track, we will need to demonstrate and reaffirm our commitment at the Turin meeting. What must come out of Turin therefore is a clear message of common will to make the revision of the Maastricht treaty the highest political priority.

Q. And your other aims?

A. Unemployment needs particular attention. It is also of utmost importance to reform institutions, the role of the European Parliament and the Commission and to achieve a qualified majority voting for the future. We may have to rethink things, and some smaller countries could perhaps be tied together for voting purposes. But voting is a very delicate matter when it comes to foreign and defense policy, so this is a tough one. We will also have to rethink the common agricultural policy. And we need to spend more time on issues such as the environment and the fight against terrorism.

•

Q. Speaking of terrorism, Majed Youssef Molky, the Palestinian terrorist who killed Leon Klinghoffer on the Achille Lauro, was captured on Friday after escaping from an Italian prison. Your law allowed home leave for this man and there was talk of illicit help in his escape too. What are your thoughts on these matters?

A. I don't think there was a plot, but I do think our law must be tightened for people who have committed serious crimes. I informed American Ambassador Reginald Bartholomew immediately of the capture and he was pleased. I also received a message of great satisfaction from Washington.

•

Q. As a former central banker, can you give our readers your reading on the state of the European economy?

A. There is a slowdown in a number of countries, but the expectation is for a pick-up later in the year. The reasons for the slowdown are not very clear, however, and Europe's drive for fiscal consolidation and discipline, which is necessary, is a complicating factor.

Q. Will the economic slowdown kill the idea of a single currency in 1999?

A. I think there is a will to go ahead, but it is too early to judge. Certainly we will have to see the effects of the slowdown on national budget deficits. It will be tough for many countries to make it by 1999, including some of the biggest countries.

•

Q. Let's touch on Italian politics. The election campaign started last week with everyone everyone hurling insults. What kind of campaign is this?

A. It is unfortunate that the beginning of the campaign has been like this, with confrontations between candidates rather than a discussion of the issues. Perhaps it is because we enter the spring of 1996 with a good economic situation at home, declining inflation and a strengthening lira and that reduces the economic debate. For me the top priority must be fighting unemployment.

BRIEFLY EUROPE

Turks Seek Talks With Greeks

ANKARA — Prime Minister Mesut Yilmaz called on Greece Sunday to hold talks with Turkey in an effort to solve long-standing disputes, especially concerning the Aegean Sea.

"Turkey and Greece have to overcome the cycle of conflict into which they have been locked," he said at his first news conference since becoming prime minister earlier this month. His gesture came just days before a European Union meeting to discuss closer relations between Turkey and the Union. Greece, an EU member, has vowed to thwart the implementation of a pact which gives Turkey favorable trade status with the Union. *(AP)*

Giscard Expected to Quit Race

PARIS — Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, the former president of France, is expected to drop out of the race for leadership of the Union for French Democracy on Monday.

The UDF, an umbrella for five centrist parties and the junior partner in France's ruling center-right coalition, will pick its leader next Sunday in Lyon.

Sources say that Mr. Giscard d'Estaing, 70, a founder of the UDF and French president from 1974 to 1981, is resigned to bowing out and will announce on Monday who he will back in the contest. François Léotard, 53, a former defense minister, is the favorite to become the group's next leader. *(Reuters)*

Spanish Right Sets New Talks

MADRID — Spain's conservatives, minority winners of the March 3 general election, will open new talks this week aimed at forming a government.

José María Aznar, leader of the conservative Popular Party, gathered his closest colleagues over the weekend to discuss efforts to secure the necessary support of regional parties. "The ground is clear," he said after three weeks of talks with Catalan, Basque and Canary Island parties.

These three, plus the Valencia Unionists' one seat, would create a working majority of 182 seats in the 350-seat lower house. *(Reuters)*

Paris Police Evict Africans

PARIS — French policemen, acting at dawn Sunday, evicted nearly 300 Africans occupying a Paris gymnasium in protest of tough immigration laws. The demonstrators had been holed up in the gym since being forced out of a church last week.

The police said 294 people, including 100 children, were detained and taken to a police school in the suburban Vincennes. *(Reuters)*

Calendar

European Union events on Monday:

BRUSSELS: EU research ministers meet.

BRUSSELS: Schengen executive committee meets with Mario Monti, European commissioner for the internal market.

LISBON: Monika Wulf-Mathies, Eopean commissioner for regional policy, on official visit.

PARIS: Erkki Liikanen, European commissioner for the budget, speaks on the EU at the Franco-Finnish chamber of commerce. *Sources: Agence Europe, AFP*

Alistair Cooke Marks 50 Years on the Air

Reuters

LONDON — Alistair Cooke turned the clock back half a century over the weekend, marking the 50th anniversary of his "Letter from America" by rereading the first of his popular 15-minute BBC radio talks.

"Somebody had the odd idea that I should repeat the very first talk," Mr. Cooke, now 87, began. "I looked it over, and it seemed a happy idea. So here it is."

Reading in the style that has become his trademark, Mr. Cooke described the privations of life in New York in the winter of 1945-46.

Mr. Cooke had just returned from a sobering monthlong visit to cold, suffering London and wanted his listeners back in Britain to know that rich America, too, was still feeling the pinch of wartime shortages.

The letter was the first of a string of 2,458 about life in his adopted homeland, and if Mr. Cooke has his way there will be many more to come.

Thanking his worldwide audience, estimated at 34 million, Mr. Cooke said at the end of Sunday's letter that a journalist had recently asked him if the BBC had asked him to retire and whether he would do so anyway.

"I said the answer was 'No' and 'No,'" he said. "I've noticed if you retire you keel over."

"The day of retirement from this assignment, which was given to me 50 years ago by the BBC official who bore the grand title of Director of the Spoken Word, is up to the Lord of us all — the great timekeeper in the sky, the true Director of the Spoken Word," he said.

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An American Retreat?

The reception that the Clinton administration's foreign affairs budget is receiving in Congress is more than cool. It is downright negative and in ways suggesting differences in kind, not degree, from Cold War budget battles. It is not simply that the administration, having already pared its requests, faces demands to cut its spending by as much as another third over a prospective seven-year budget-balancing period. Nor is it just that the party controlling Congress is tacking unwelcome policy amendments onto money bills arriving from a White House of the other party. What is distinctive is the unspoken premise behind these moves. It suggests an American retreat from international responsibility.

Granted, you can never justify every dollar of a budget category where increments of intangible access, influence and power are being sought. But this time the cuts are deep to the point of denying the United States the resources it needs to know and affect things of importance to the American interest going on elsewhere. This is being done, moreover, after strenuous internal "downsizing" in every foreign affairs agency except intelligence — and without sufficient debate on whether foreign affairs should take a full budget hit in the first place.

The advocates of retrenchment, it turns out, have no particular theory of their case. They make no serious claim that, in a post-Cold War world characterized by recurrent violence and ever growing interrelatedness in economic, immigration, ecological and police and security affairs, the United States can safely retrench. On the contrary, these advocates indicate by their calls to increase military spending (already a dozen times nonmilitary foreign affairs spending) a basic readiness to exercise high-level vigilance and power. They simply do not want to spend money on intelligent pre-crisis involvement in troubled societies, which they contemptuously and stupidly dismiss as "social work."

Taking a full role in the international organizations and banks, starting with the United Nations, is anathema to the Hill's spokesmen for disengagement. They enjoy inventing internationalist conspiracies against U.S. sovereignty, ignoring that the United States and its friends remain in a position to dominate these agencies. For a while it seemed that legislators were demanding reform as the price of restoring some part of America's treaty-busting arrears. Now it becomes clear that they wish altogether to dispense with these maligned instruments of American leverage. Your true disengager's favorite international agency is the weather bureau.

The United States has identifiable interests that compel sensible global involvement — its allies, its values, its economic links, its citizens' connections. Oddly enough, these interests are accepted more or less by common consent when it comes to reinforce them by America's global military reach; they are challenged only when it comes to serve them by foreign policy. Beyond specific interests, however, lies an overarching American requirement to remain an active and responsible global presence. Without it, the world would become vulnerable to even more uncontrollable passions and alarms, whose consequences for Americans could be profound. This is the message that anyone sitting in the White House, or seeking to, ought to be conveying to the American people, urgently.

— THE WASHINGTON POST.

Back to Cooperation

Saturday's presidential election in Taiwan was an affirmation of democracy, but not a declaration of independence. It is important that the leaders of Taiwan, China and the United States recognize that distinction in the weeks ahead as they weigh the election results and the future of Taiwan.

Lee Teng-hui, who took power eight years ago after Chiang Kai-shek's son died in office, was elected on Saturday in a free vote, the first democratic presidential election in Taiwan. China itself has never chosen its top leader by democratic elections. Mr. Lee won a resounding victory over his three opponents, including a proponent of independence, because he has brought the island from the vestiges of authoritarianism to a level of political freedom rare in Asia. He has also presided over a doubling of Taiwanese living standards since he assumed power.

But if the voters' concerns were primarily domestic, the question of Taiwan's current and future status clearly influenced the campaign. Mr. Lee appears determined to prevent reunification with China as long as the Communist government remains in power in Beijing, but he stops short of openly supporting Taiwanese independence. Like most Taiwanese, he has no taste for a military confrontation with China that Taiwan cannot win.

China's recent missile tests and military exercises in the Taiwan Strait failed to frighten voters away from Mr. Lee. If anything, China's belligerence backfired not only on Taiwan but across Asia and in Washington. Beijing's willingness to threaten military force for political ends has shaken the region's assumptions about China's peaceful intentions.

Taiwan today is neither an independent country nor a province governed by Beijing. Its ambiguous status dates to the Chinese civil war. In 1949, Chiang Kai-shek, the defeated anti-Communist leader, fled to Taiwan with his armies and political entourage. By the late 1980s, with the mainland pursuing economic reform, Taiwanese businessmen began investing heavily in China. Until last year the two sides seemed headed toward a pragmatic understanding. Then politics intervened.

Mr. Lee, whose family comes from the island, not the mainland like his predecessors, courted support on Taiwan by needlessly seeking the trappings of independence, including separate Taiwanese admission to the United Nations and unofficial diplomatic ties with countries that recognize Beijing, including the United States. China predictably responded by redoubling its efforts to bend Taiwan to its will. Strengthened by his election, Mr. Lee should now try to steer relations with China back to a state of equilibrium. China, for its part, should end the military intimidation and threatening rhetoric.

There is an increasingly strong case to be made for eventual Taiwanese independence, as islanders grow used to political and economic freedoms that would probably not survive under Communist rule. But for now the cost of pressing that case — including possible Chinese disruptions of Taiwan's trade-based economy — would exceed any potential gain. Mr. Lee should concentrate on building and protecting the freedoms and informal autonomy that Taiwan already enjoys.

The United States was right to send warships to stand by Taiwan's coast to counter the Chinese threats. Now it should encourage both sides to step back from confrontation and return to the mutually advantageous cooperation they were pursuing only a year ago.

— THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Other Comment

Fewer Legless Children

The particular horror of anti-personnel land mines is that their power to kill and maim survives the fighting. More than 100 million mines lie undetected in more than 60 countries, tearing the limbs off perhaps 20,000 passersby each year. New mines are laid much faster than old ones can be cleared. Next month in Geneva, governments will be trying, once again, to rewrite the United Nations' feeble 16-year-old rules on these pernicious weapons. If America were to weigh in, supporting the two dozen countries that urge a ban, the result might be different.

Behind the current negotiation, the momentum for an outright ban is growing. Could such a ban be monitored? No. Moreover, many would reject it. But this would not make it useless. Until recently, no policemen have been tramping round enforcing the ban on other death-dealing instruments that the world considers intolerable. Yet the use of chemical and biological weapons has been blessedly rare.

If land mines could be similarly stigmatized, their users punished or shamed into outcasts, old battlefields might become farms again, and legless children a rarity.

— The Economist (London).

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With the Crisis Over, It's Time for Statesmanship

By Thomas L. Friedman

WASHINGTON — In many ways the immediate Taiwan crisis was over two weeks ago. On March 8, the U.S. national security adviser, Anthony Lake, met privately with his Chinese counterpart, Liu Hua Qui, at Pamela Harriman's farm in Middleburg, Virginia. The conclusion of their daylong meeting was an "understanding" that went like this: The United States would use its influence to try to restrain Taiwan from any more far-reaching moves toward independence, and in return Beijing would not use military force to resolve its current dispute with Taipei.

But, having defused the short-term crisis, both sides understood that a longer-term deal had to be struck that would stabilize China-Taiwan relations. There is such a deal to be had. This is not a Greek tragedy fated to end badly.

Taiwan's newly elected president, Lee Teng-hui, should vow that Taiwan will not now pursue full independence by seeking membership in institutions such as the United Nations, and China should vow that while it remains committed to eventual reunification with Taiwan, it will seek to accomplish this only through peaceful means.

In exchange for assurances from Taiwan that it will not pursue creeping, unilateral independence, China should also commit itself to allowing Taiwan a higher profile on the world stage. This could be anything from observer status in the United Nations to membership in the IMF and the World Bank.

Taiwan would thrive from such a deal. It would have de facto independence, de jure democracy, flourishing capitalism and time — time for history to take its course and transform China into a state that Taiwan could more easily coexist with. Beijing, meanwhile, could claim victory — that its sovereignty was not being dismembered.

What worries me is not that there isn't a subtle, long-term deal to be had. What worries me is that there aren't the subtle deal makers to make it happen.

In Beijing, China's now incapacitated Deng Xiaoping was the sort of leader who could strike a tough, nuanced deal. But Mr. Deng's successor, Jiang Zemin, doesn't have such clout, and in the ongoing power struggle in Beijing his rivals seem intent on using any sign of nuance on his part regarding Taiwan as a sign of weakness to be turned against him.

In Taiwan, Mr. Lee deserves great credit for skillfully shepherding his country to democracy. But he is a complicated man — born in Taiwan, educated in Japan and America. His heart is Taiwanese, his grammar is Japanese, his ideals are Western and his leadership style is Confucian aloofness.

Mr. Lee does not have a good feel for mainland China, and by winning 54 percent of the vote in the presidential election I fear he may get even more cocky in his dealings with Beijing.

As for the rest of Asia, I recently met with one of the region's elder statesmen and asked him why the region didn't play a more assertive role with China and help the United States resolve the crisis. He answered: "China has been around here for 3,000 years. The U.S. has been out here in Asia for about 50 years. We figure you're maybe good for another 20 years. But after that you'll be gone, and we'll be left here alone with China. We can't afford a confrontation." Thanks a lot.

Finally, in Washington, the Clinton administration has been all over the board on China. It came in vowing to tame the "dictators in Beijing," then opted for a policy of engagement. Without any adult supervision, every arm of the government (and Congress) just engaged Beijing in its own way, with no overall strategy.

U.S.-China policy drifted aimlessly, which is one reason why this crisis went as far as it did. It is shocking how little attention China has been given compared with Syria or Israel or Bosnia.

It is time for President Bill Clinton to lead on this issue. He will be in Japan in mid-April. Why doesn't he also go to Beijing and try to help foster a new deal between Taiwan and China?

If U.S. officials can embrace Slobodan Milosevic, Hafez Assad and Boris Yeltsin (who has killed a lot more civilians in Chechnya than the Chinese did in Tiananmen), then they can have a sustained dialogue with the Chinese.

The opportunities are so great. The stakes are so high. It would be nice if at least one statesman rose to the occasion. Who knows, others might just follow.

The New York Times.

The Best Hope Is for Political Change in Evolving China

By George Hicks

HONG KONG — Lee Teng-hui's triumphant electoral victory in Taiwan has dealt China one of its greatest blows since the Communists took power on the mainland from the Nationalists in 1949.

Mr. Lee's 54 percent majority, greater than expected, and the remarkable 76 percent voter turnout in the face of China's missile and war games threats, is only part of Beijing's defeat — the less important part. What really worries the Communist leadership is that, in Mr. Lee's words, "Taiwan has now opened the big door of Democracy."

The obvious euphoria with which the Taiwanese greeted their first direct presidential election, and the smooth and honest way the polls were carried out, gave the lie once and for all to the theory that Asians, especially Chinese, are somehow unsuited for democracy.

"This is a proud day for all Chinese people around the world," said Martin Lee, chairman of the Hong Kong Democratic Party. "It is the first time in China's history that a leader is elected on a one-person, one-vote basis on Chinese soil."

Martin Lee, whose party swept the Hong Kong polls in September, went on to compare the territory's situation with that of Taiwan. "Whereas Taiwan takes a large step forward becoming a modern and free society, Hong Kong is about to take a giant step backwards."

The Chinese authorities have said countless times that the first thing they will do when they gain control of Hong Kong at midnight on June 30, 1997, is to dissolve the democratically elected Legislative Council and consign everyone with democratic legitimacy to the wilderness or worse. China's treatment of its own proponents of democracy shows what the Martin Lees of Hong Kong can expect.

It is the idea of democracy, rather than the purported fear of Taiwan opting for independence, that Beijing finds really threatening. So long as Taiwan was undemocratic, even if violently anti-Communist as under Chiang Kai-shek and his son, China could live with it. But Lee Teng-hui is something very different. He has made Taiwan a functioning democracy which shows every promise of success through consolidation.

For Beijing, the danger of democratic contagion destroying the Communists' monopoly of political power in China is such that Taiwan's democracy must be destroyed.

Democracy and the desire for independence go hand in hand in Taiwan. President Lee pays lip service to reunification with the mainland and to "one China." In fact, he is pursuing independence by stealth because he knows that in a genuine democracy independence is what people want.

Many surveys conducted in Hong Kong since 1982 have also shown very little support for union with China and overwhelming backing for independence with democracy, or at least the maintenance of the status quo, in which Hong Kong enjoys the benefits of British democracy without the vote.

Hong Kong's fate as an appendage of China may be sealed, but prospects for reunification between Taiwan and China seem remote. At the very least, Beijing will demand that President Lee give China control over Taiwan's arms purchases and international diplomacy. Buoyed by such a clear mandate from the electorate, this is far more than he is likely to concede.

With U.S. warships close to Taiwan and the U.S. Congress in no mood to kowtow to China, the Clinton administration is now committed to defend Taiwan against a Chinese military blockade or attack.

The best hope, although it is a long shot, is that political change will occur in China that will lead it to accept the reality of Taiwan as an independent state. Such a development would bring China in from the cold to join the global mainstream not just as a trading entity but also as an evolving democracy. Then, and only then, would some sort of reunification with Taiwan be a real possibility.

The writer, author of "The Comfort Women" and a longtime observer of Asia, contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

An Unintended Outcome in Bosnia Will Have to Be Prevented

By Jim Hoagland

WASHINGTON — American diplomacy and military leadership have created a new reality in Europe in just three months: a viable Bosnian state with a unified capital. But peace in Bosnia is an ugly, still uncertain success. It could be swiftly undermined by the grim problems accompanying the initial good news.

America risks traveling a road of good intentions to an unintended destination: the creation of a radicalized Muslim government in Bosnia with its own stake in ethnic partition. It is an outcome that Washington obviously does not want, but an outcome that Washington is not fully committed to preventing.

This is not to minimize the first big accomplishment of the Dayton peace accord. Sarajevo is no longer a Balkan version of Cold War Berlin or pre-1967 Jerusalem. The return of Sarajevo's suburbs to the central government has ended the city's cruel division by terror.

Bosnian Serbs were intimidated into keeping their commitment to surrender the suburbs by the presence of 60,000 NATO-commanded peacekeepers of the International Force. The force has thus accomplished the first, crucial part of its yearlong mission: to deploy and scare the bejesus out of everybody.

But then the peacekeepers stood by and watched the departing Serbs burn, loot and pillage the areas they abandoned, forcing out fellow Serbs who wanted to stay in a multiethnic Sarajevo. The Muslim-led Bosnian government, not unhappy to see the Serbs go, did nothing to prevent this self-inflicted ethnic cleansing.

The Serbian campaign was entirely predictable. It was in fact predicted by U.S. and European officials who beseeched the American commander of International Force, Admiral Leighton W. Smith Jr., to deter the Serbs by explicitly threatening retaliation for such destruction. Instead, the force kept to its passive role of separating the organized military forces of the warring factions.

"There was no way to prevent this, short of going from building to building and securing them against heavily armed forces that were intent on destroying those buildings," the Pentagon spokesman, Ken Bacon, explained when I asked him about Admiral Smith's decision. "IFOR can provide general area security, but not building-to-building security."

A 1,300-officer international police force that should have overseen the Serbian withdrawal is still struggling to get organized. It has been badly crippled by the inability of the Clinton administration and Congress to fulfill promises to provide the force with a 200-officer U.S. contingent. Only 33 U.S. policemen have arrived.

After the daring U.S. diplomacy and military strikes against the Serbs that led to the peace accord, the administration has switched to a strategy of avoiding failure — and avoiding the responsibility for failure — rather than taking new chances for success.

But the United States cannot avoid responsibility for the nature of the Bosnian state that will survive both the barbaric war that Dayton ended and the ugly peace that Dayton has begun. American actions, and inaction, have unavoidable consequences, as the sacking of the Sarajevo suburbs shows.

The result is new ethnic bitterness and physical partition on the ground. This is the danger of Dayton: Each step that blocks a renewal of the war by separating forces and populations also abets the dismemberment of the original Bosnian multiethnic state recognized by the United Nations in 1992.

The architects of Dayton took that risk to stop the bloodbath. The long-shot hope was that peace and elections this summer would produce a new national cohesion and give life to a democratic Bosnia. But if there is not effective international protection for the elections — if IFOR and the police stand aside again and polling stations suffer the fate of Sarajevo's suburbs — that hope vanishes completely.

War is then likely to resume as American troops withdraw. But the U.S. fallback position of helping equip and train the Bosnian army up to parity with the Serbs also suffered a major setback last week. An international conference called to invite other countries to help this effort produced no significant offers of aid for Bosnia.

Saudi Arabia, which had originally suggested the conference, did not even attend the Ankara meeting, raising fears that the Saudis and other Muslim nations may have decided to deal bilaterally with the Bosnians on a Muslim-to-Muslim basis. Iran already does so.

Only one country can get Saudi Arabia involved in Bosnia constructively, get IFOR and the police to provide security for elections and prevent Bosnia from betraying its own ideals. If America fails at those follow-on tasks, it may yet find that it created a Frankenstein's monster at Dayton.

The Washington Post.

The Yeltsin Campaign Visits Oslo

By Per Egil Hegge

OSLO — After two postponements for health reasons, Boris Yeltsin starts a 30-hour state visit in Oslo today. Accompanied by a staff of 200, the Russian president and his wife Naina will be guests of Norway's head of state, King Harald, and Queen Sonja.

Mr. Yeltsin is expected to discuss bilateral issues with the Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland. The ticklish question of accepting former Warsaw Pact countries as new members of NATO will no doubt come up as well, Norwegian diplomats say.

Norwegian generals, who usually stay out of politics, have publicly raised doubts about the wisdom of expanding NATO eastward. In their view, it would not be in the interest of the defense organization to widen the alliance in at present a way that might irritate the Russians.

These reservations, voiced by Norway's defense chief, General Arne Sollie, as well as by Norway's permanent military representative at NATO headquarters in Belgium, have led foreign diplomats in Oslo to conclude that Norway is more skeptical than other NATO members about the idea of including countries like the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland in the alliance.

That matter was discussed in Moscow last week by U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher and NATO's secretary-general, Javier Solana. Mr. Yeltsin and his foreign minister, Yevgeni Primakov, repeated Russia's objections.

With a 200-kilometer-long common border north of the Arctic Circle, Russia and Norway have important bilateral issues to discuss, most of them connected with environment.

President Yeltsin's Oslo visit was originally set for July last year, but was rescheduled for November when he was taken ill after a trip to the United States. The November visit was again put off.

For Mr. Yeltsin's Norwegian hosts, it is important to finalize a cooperation agreement to reduce the pollution from industry in the city of Nikel, only 25 kilometers from the border. Joint financing has not been worked out.

The Nikel metallurgical factories spew out far more sulfur dioxide than does the whole of Norway's industry, most of which is based in the southern part of the country. The Russian pollution has a severe impact on the fragile Arctic environment. Norwegian authorities are also concerned about nuclear waste in the Kola Peninsula, which borders on the province of Finnmark in the Arctic region.

Important as these problems are, it is not obvious that they would require the presence of Russia's head of state in Oslo. Accordingly, the Yeltsin visit is regarded here as part of his re-election campaign, with voting set for June 16.

Security is strict by Norwegian standards, with three armored ZIL limousines, each weighing five tons, having been flown in from Moscow last week for the 55-kilometer trip form Gardermoen airport outside Oslo.

The environmental activist organization Bellona has said it will demonstrate. It wants to protest against the arrest of its representative in St. Petersburg, Alexander Nikitin, who is charged with treason for having divulged state secrets. Mr. Nikitin, a former Soviet naval officer, is suspected by the authorities of having revealed information about Russia's nuclear program.

Bellona has done pioneer work in digging up information about Russian pollution, nuclear as well as industrial.

The expectation in Oslo is that the main aim of Mr. Yeltsin's short visit is to enhance his image at home as a statesman who can handle both himself and his country's interests abroad. There is fervent hope of much goodwill and little controversy during his day and a half here.

Visiting Oslo has, however, not brought much luck to Moscow leaders in the past. Nikita Khrushchev bullied and charmed his way through town in June of 1964 with more than a few memorable, if mostly unprintable, utterances, and was ousted less than four months later. President Mikhail Gorbachev came in 1991 to pick up his 1990 Nobel Peace Prize, a few months before the Soviet Union was dissolved and he was left without a country.

The Russian presidential election in June will be followed with keen interest by Yeltsin's hosts in Oslo today.

The writer is a senior editor at Aftenposten in Oslo. He contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1896: Rays Succeed

PARIS — Mme. Cavaignac, the wife of the Minister of War, has had part of a needle extracted from her hand, says the *Temps*, in consequence of a successful experiment with the Roentgen rays. Mme. Cavaignac's hand was photographed by the Roentgen process, and a negative was obtained which showed the position of the foreign body. The needle was then extracted without the slightest difficulty.

1921: Rolling Menace

PARIS — Like a Brobdingnagian monster bent on a wild and reckless career of destruction, one of the gigantic lorries in the service of the Paris street-cleaning department made a mad, zig-zag dash down the Faubourg Montmartre yesterday [March 24], scattering men, women and children and vehicles in chaotic confusion, until it was finally brought to a stop by smashing into a linen store, where its drunken chauffeur was saved from being lynched only by the intervention of gendarmes. Four persons were seriously injured.

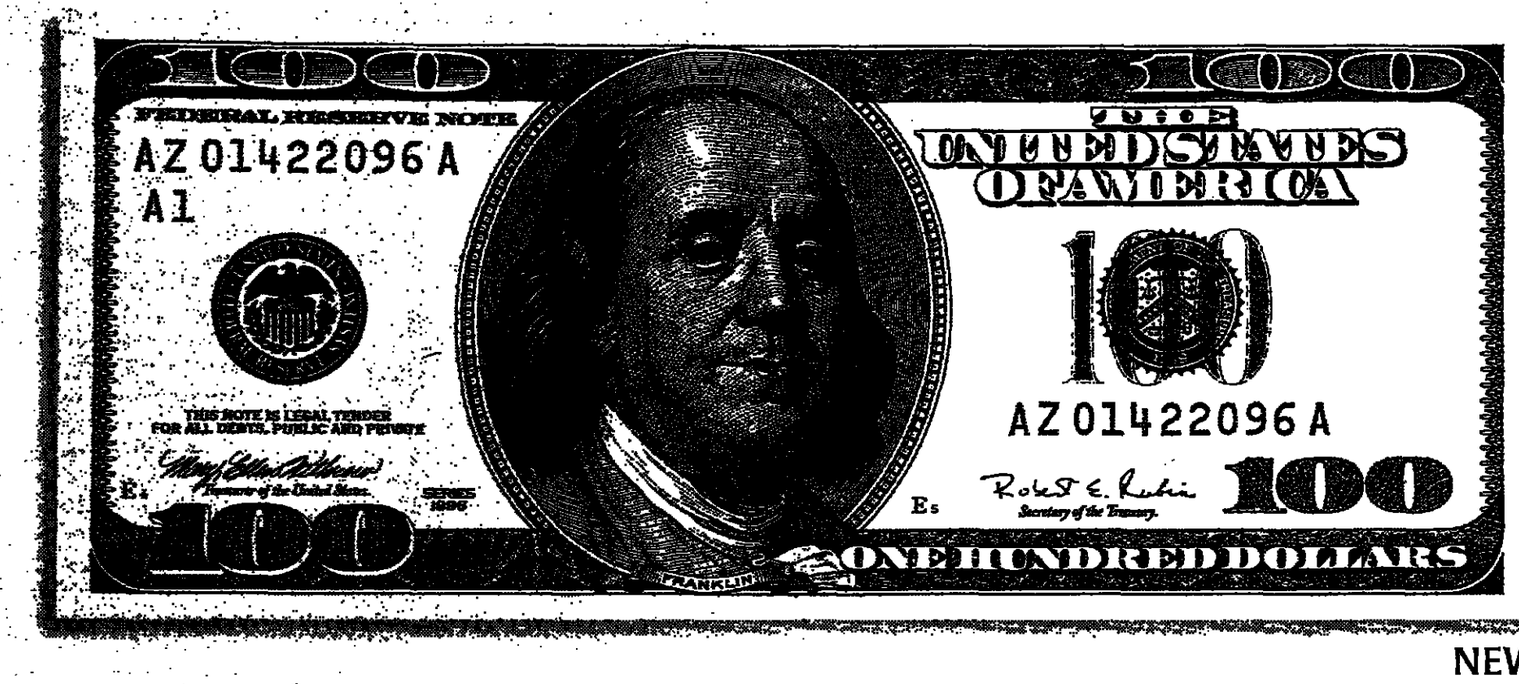
1946: Pact on Poland

NUREMBERG — Russia signed a secret agreement with Germany on August 23, 1939, which called for dividing up Poland by means of a demarcation line, an affidavit from Frederick Gaus, former chief of the German Foreign Office's legal department, disclosed today [March 24]. This pledged agreement came in addition to the famous non-aggression pact between the Soviet Union and the Nazi government. It anticipated Germany's declaration of war on Poland by more than a week. Details of the agreement, which apparently took for granted Poland's defeat, are contained in a document signed by Gaus.

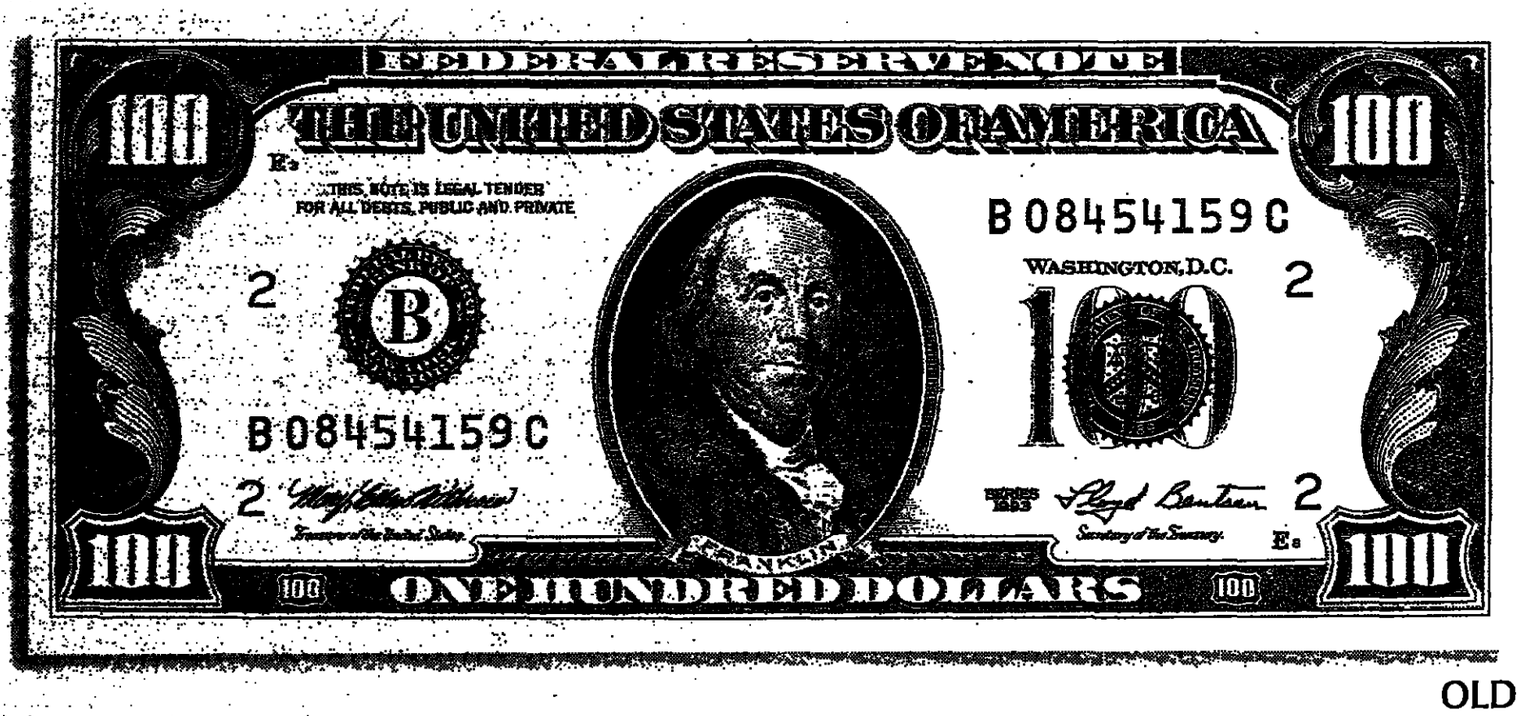
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If you have any questions, please contact the nearest U.S. Embassy or the U.S. Treasury Global Information Center at (202) 872-8177.

This message from the U.S. Treasury and the Federal Reserve Board

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GO: 0,501 FOD*: 0,311

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GO: 1,03 FOD*: 0,62
SC97: 1,43 SCSP : 1,30

BELGIQUE en FB/1 - TVA: 21%
GO: 21,32 FOD*: 10,18
SC97: 28,35 SCSP : 30,33

HOLLANDE (zone 2) NLG/1 - TVA: 17,5%
GO: 1,203

LUXEMBOURG en LUF/1 - TVA: 15,0%
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INTERNATIONAL

Honduras Succeeds in Reining In Military

By Douglas Farah
Washington Post Service

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras — In the 1980s the military here bristled with U.S.-supplied weapons while playing predominant role in internal politics ad acting as a bastion against the regio's Marxist insurgencies.

But resident Carlos Roberto Reina, sinc being elected two years ago, has taln steps to reduce the military's influence that previously would hve been unthinkable without the risl of provoking a coup. The measurs include abolishing the draft and moing to separate the police from th army.

Analsts and diplomats attribute the changeo three factors: the end of the Cold Var, with a subsequent change in U.S policy; the strengthening of civiliarrule because the military became upopular, and Mr. Reina's ability to onfront the military without publicl humiliating its leaders.

Throughout the 1980s, while neighboring El Salvador and Nicaraua were engaged in civil wars, Hondras largely escaped the violence. ut the country became a key part c the Reagan administration's strateg to contain revolution in Central Aerica. In exchange for massive militay aid, the Honduran Army let the U.S.-backed contra rebels use Hondras as a staging area, supply cente and refuge in the war against Nicaragua's Sandinista government.

From 1982 to 1992, the United States poured $461 million in military aid into Honduras, a nation with a per capita income of $540 a year, one of the lowest in the hemisphere. The United States maintained an air base here, and the country was widely derided by leftists as the USS Honduras.

Under U.S. pressure, Honduras did hold presidential elections. But civilians exercised little real power. With the end of the regional wars, which coincided with the crumbling of the Soviet bloc, Washington's interest in Honduras waned and the focus of policy shifted to strengthening civilian institutions.

"We hear a lot more about problems between the military and the civilian government. But it is not that there are more problems; it is that we can talk about them now and before you couldn't."

"The president has played a key role," said Leo Valladares, the nation's human rights ombudsman. "We hear a lot more about problems between the military and the civilian government. But it is not that there are more problems; it is that we can talk about them now and before you couldn't. And that is a big step, part of our evolution toward a civil society."

The process has not been easy or smooth, nor has Mr. Reina won all the battles. Military spending is still kept secret, and officers suspected of rights violations are still protected. But even critics of the military acknowledge significant changes.

Among the steps taken are:

- Abolishing compulsory military service, through which the military obtained most of its recruits. While the draft was meant to be universal, the wealthy routinely bought their way out. Since the law went into effect, the number of soldiers has plummeted.
- Separating the police from the military and placing public security forces under civilian control. The measure faces a final vote in the National Assembly, where easy passage is predicted.
- Removing the state telephone company from military control. The only profitable state-run corporation, it provided the military with millions of dollars that did not pass through the budgetary process. It allowed military intelligence to carry out widespread wiretaps with no legal controls.
- Cutting the military's public budget by more than 10 percent.
- Refusing to allow the high command to dictate the choice of defense minister. Defying tradition, Mr. Reina rejected all three names put forward by the military as possibilities. He chose an officer, but not one on the list.
- Civilian courts bringing charges against 10 military officers accused of torturing or killing suspected leftists during the 1980s. The officers, however, have refused to turn themselves in to face the charges. All 10 either belonged to or provided intelligence to Battalion 316, a CIA-trained intelligence unit accused of scores of kidnappings and of murder.

While General Mario Hung, the military commander, publicly has asked the officers to surrender, investigators said the fugitives are being protected by the military.

One of the men is regularly seen walking here with a cohort of bodyguards. Another, Billy Joya, held a news conference last month that was shown on television. Mr. Joya said he had become a born-again Christian and asked forgiveness but said he had not participated in torture or killings. At least three witnesses contradict his statement.

"Even so, we have taken a giant step," said an investigator in the case. "You could not even consider publicly questioning a military person before."

BOOKS

EQUATION FOR EVIL

By Pilip Caputo. 488 pages. $25. IarperCollins.

Reviewed by
Richard Bausch

On the surface, Philip Caputo's new novel is abo the aftermath of a violer act — the worst of violer acts: an assault on childre. But "Equation for Evi' is really about much mo than that.

In a bright day in April, a lon gunman named Duane Bogs ambushes a school bus fulof children headed for an oung in rural California. He nders the bus driver and the kills 14 children, most of tho Asian, before turning thgun on himself.

he public outcry that resul from the massacre brings tether two men, Leander Hatwood, a forensic psyclatrist, and Gabriel Chin, a pice detective, who are ased to investigate the cine, to perfoni a "psychiatric autopsy" on the killer, and to try to establish a motive.

As they seek to uncover the "Equation for Evil," their search takes them through the racism and mental distortions of the killer's daily existence — his affiliation with white supremacy groups, his squalid life as a misfit, loner and drug abuser — and eventually leads them to Mace Weathers, a well-spoken college student with a kind of surface charm and all the emotional depth of a clock.

With the discovery of the possibility of a silent accomplice — someone who might have put Duane Boggs up to it all — Weathers becomes the focus of the investigation, and Caputo takes an audacious risk by delivering several important scenes through Weathers's point of view — where we can feel the essential chill of his being, the clockwork interior of the man.

"Mace walked briskly to the bus stop, resisting the compulsion to count cracks in the sidewalk. No time to waste. . . . He'd felt a little godlike. He alone knew the secrets . . . he alone was the keeper of the mysteries."

The investigation makes a very compelling story, with all the elements of a good murder mystery, but, more important, it provides Caputo with the opportunity to paint a very clear and lucid picture of the horrors we have come to in this country, the rampant ethnic hatreds and the avalanche of vulgarity and cruelty that overwhelms our daily lives.

He renders his story with an attitude — the stance, one might be tempted to say, of a good journalist reporting from the front.

Here, he describes the reaction of people after the killings have taken place, and television crews have arrived:

"The people of the neighborhood knew that the spectacle unfolding before them was a necessary, almost a sacred, ritual that must not be interfered with in any way. This ritual was called coverage . . . . If they had been Americans of their grandparents' generation, they would have sought out priests and ministers. . . . The people of the neighborhood turned on their televisions. . . . Their televisions made the alien familiar through the familiar ceremonies of coverage."

One understands rather quickly that this book is not going to stop at the appetite for violence or the ghoulish portrayal of it.

Caputo begins by giving us a glimpse of the killer on the morning of the crime. "Today was different. His feelings on this, his life's last morning, were those of a convict on the day of his release. . . . If everything went according to plan he'd be free and gone before the evening news, and the whole world would know it because he was going to be on the evening news."

We move from the killer to one of the soon-to-be victims, a teacher named Joyce Deluca, who gets wounded during the massacre and whose bright, forward-thinking character is forever altered by the trauma.

The actual crime is dealt with quickly, in the blur of what Deluca can see or hear. And then, shifting points of view adeptly from Deluca to Chin to Heartwood, to Weathers and back, Caputo gives us what amounts to an extensive study not just of the particular crime, monstrous as it is, but of a whole society gone very badly awry.

He paints vivid pictures of the sordid underside of American life, contrasts them with elaborate delineations of the California landscape. Everything in this America contributes to the violence that threatens to engulf it.

Caputo, author of "A Rumor of War" and "Indian Country," lets no one and nothing off the hook. Each sentence, each line of thought and narrative contributes to the sorrowing sense of developing catastrophe in a society "so obsessed with fame" that it has made a "shrine of the mansion where the drug-addicted king of rock and roll died of a stroke while moving his bowels."

Observations like this, wedded to a strong story with fully realized, interesting characters, in a prose as controlled and direct as a stare, make "Equation for Evil" the fine novel it is.

Richard Bausch, whose most recent book is "The Selected Stones," wrote this for The Washington Post.

BRIDGE

By Alan Truscott

ILA Perlstein, one of Long Island's most respected ayers passed away recently.

Mrs. Perlstein held two nal titles and was 16th on e list of best performers in ational championships and econd among women for 995.

She was nervous as dummy n this 1981 diagramed deal. After her partner had opened wo spades, a weak two-bid, here was a spade-diamonds battle up to the six-level. She knew she could collect a penalty by doubling six diamonds, but persevered to six spades, an action that would be called bold or rash, depending on the result.

Against six spades doubled, the opening diamond lead was ruffed in the dummy. The declarer ruffed a heart, and Mrs. Perlstein began to feel better.

A spade was led to the ace, and the next five tricks were won with a crossruff in the red suits. The spade king drew the remaining trump, and the club ace remained as the entry to cash the established hearts and make the doubled slam.

At first, it appeared that a club lead, driving out dummy's ace, would have beaten six spades, but analysis showed that South could have survived by clever play: she would have had to contrive an extra entry to the dummy by finessing the spade ten at some point. Then the established hearts could again be cashed at the end of the day.

"I know we could have had 800," announced Mrs. Perlstein brazenly, "but I prefer 1,210."

NORTH
♠ A 10 4 3
♡ Q 10 8 7 6 5 2
◇ —
♣ A 6

WEST
♠ Q 6
♡ A 3 9 4
◇ K 6 5
♣ Q 10 7 3

EAST
♠ 7
♡ K 3
◇ A Q 10 9 8 4 2
♣ K J 9

SOUTH
♠ K J 9 8 5 2
♡ —
◇ J 7 3
♣ 8 5 4 2

East and West were vulnerable.

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
2 ♠	Dbl.	4 ♠	5 ♡
Pass	Pass	5 ♠	6 ◇
Pass	Pass	6 ♠	Dbl.
Pass	Pass	Pass	

West led the diamond five.

King Hussein Has Ear Surgery In Los Angeles

Reuters

LOS ANGELES — King Hussein of Jordan has undergone ear surgery in a Los Angeles hospital to correct a long-standing problem, a hospital spokesman said.

A spokesman for St. Vincent's Hospital said the king's condition was good after the operation Saturday.

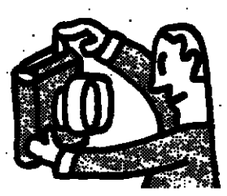
The king was expected to return home in a few days. His visit was for the sole purpose of the surgery, and he has no public engagements in America, a spokesman said.

"King Hussein suffers from a long-term ear infection and underwent a reconstruction of his ear drum on Saturday morning during a two-hour surgical procedure," the spokesman added.

WHAT THEY'RE READING

- **Denis Carrigan,** managing director of Shepperton film studios in England, is reading "*Palimpsest*" by Gore Vidal.

"It is a fascinating autobiography of a grandson of a U.S. senator and a man who was clearly in love with the Kennedys, and has some very good stories about Bobby and Jack Kennedy to show for it." *(Erik Ipsen, IHT)*



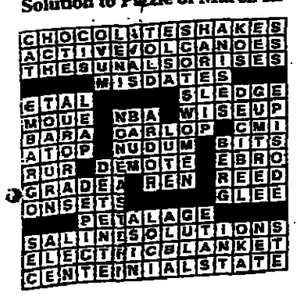
CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Knife wound
5 Stair part
9 Clear the blackboard
14 Like linoleum floors
15 West Virginia export
16 Banister post
17 Cake decorator
18 Facility
19 Kind of preview
20 Oscar
23 On, as a lamp
24 Panhandle
25 Inlaid design
29 "—— whatlikers!"
31 Feasts upon
35 Sailor's "Stop!"
36 Alan of "The Four Seasons"
37 Fraternity letter
38 Oscar
42 Singer-poet Yoko
43 Other: Sp.
44 "That's the truth!"
45 Paper quantity
47 Serenade the moon
48 Sweet and hard drinks
49 Runner Sebastian
51 "Full," at a theater
52 Oscar
61 Love affair
62 Many a Disney character
63 Caesar's worst day
64 —— face (grimace)
65 Poker payment
66 Jump
67 British guns
68 Pay mind to
69 "That was no ——. That . . ."

DOWN

1 Gulp down
2 South-of-the-border sandwich
3 Ice show jump
4 Polar explorer Richard
5 Eye-pleasing, as a view
6 "To your health!" is one
7 Asia, with "the"
8 *Courtroom bargain*
9 Follow
10 Go back on one's word
11 Mad as —— hen
12 Plane reservation
13 Actress Sommer
21 Haves
22 Letter-shaped girder
25 College concentration
26 Sheeplike
27 Mead's "Coming of Age in ——"
28 Cigar tip
29 Denzel Washington's 1989 Oscar film
30 Author Ferber
32 Computer firm
33 *Not your or our*
34 Locations
36 "The Thin Man" dog
39 Annual prize
40 Teamsters, e.g.
41 Place for peas
46 *Poet Rod*
49 Strained to see
50 Gumbo vegetables
51 Whomped à la Samson
52 *Plays extemporaneously*
53 Amo, amas,
54 Pepsi rival
55 Mormon stronghold
56 Out of sight
57 Streamlet
58 Concert halls
59 X-ray vision blocker
60 Catch sight of



Solution to Puzzle of March 22

C	H	O	C	O	L	I	T	E	S	H	A	K	E	S
A	C	T	I	V	E	V	O	L	C	A	N	O	E	S
T	H	E	S	U	N	A	L	S	O	R	I	S	E	S
			M	I	S	D	A	T	E	S				
							S	L	E	D	G	E		
6	T	A	L			N	B	A		W	I	S	E	U	P
M	O	U	E			O	A	R	L	O	P		C	M	I
B	A	R	A			N	U	D	U	M		B	I	T	S
A	T	O	P												
R	U	R		D	E	M	O	T	E		E	B	R	O	
C	R	A	D	E	A			R	E	N		R	E	E	D
O	N	S	E	T	S							G	L	E	E
				P	E	T	A	L	A	G	E				
S	A	L	I	N	E	S	O	L	U	T	I	O	N	S	
E	L	E	C	T	R	I	C	B	L	A	N	K	E	T	
C	E	N	T	E	N	N	I	A	L	S	T	A	T	E	

LANGUAGE

A Golden Oldie Hissy Fit

By William Safire

WASHINGTON — "The people up there are having a *hissy fit* all over Washington," Pat Buchanan told "Face the Nation" on CBS. "They can't believe it — 'The beast is coming.'"

This citation breathed new life into my *hissy fit* dossier. It was opened in July 1995, when Senator Orrin Hatch of Utah said, "If you file for cloture after five days of debate, that's no reason for anybody to get up here and pitch a *hissy fit*."

Asked about this at the time, Hatch said: "The term probably surfaced in the Appalachians, but it's been used in Utah for as long as I can remember. And if you really wanted to carry it out to the end, a *hissy fit* is an 'itty bitty fitty.'" Having ventured onto that thin ice, the senator added, "I think I'll go back to plain and simple *temper tantrum*." I would not advise that; a *tantrum*, origin a mystery, means "a fit of temper," and a *temper tantrum* is both redundant and an example of fused words. Better choose to fly into either a temper or a tantrum.

The senator bottomed his opinion about the phrase's Appalachian origin on a citation in the Dictionary of American Regional English, which spotted it in a 1934 issue of American Speech: "*Hissy* is probably provincial slang. I have heard it for eight or 10 years. *He threw a hissy* . . . means that the person in question was very disturbed and very angry." DARE speculated that it came from a hypocoristic, or pet-name, form of *hysterical*, or may be from the echoic *hiss*. My guess is that the association with *fit* suggests hysteria.

□

Buchanan's follow-up line was to quote the Washington establishment as saying, in horror of his candidacy, "The beast is coming." That text cries out for deconstruction.

It has nothing to do with "Beauty and the Beast" or any rough beast slouching toward Bethlehem. Rather, it may be rooted in an 1815 skit, found in Louis Cohen's 1925 "Napoléonic Anecdotes," purporting to show how Napoléon's return from Elba was progressively regarded in Paris; it can be found under "public opinion" in "Respectfully Quoted," the dictionary of quotations most frequently requested from the Congressional Research Service.

"What news? *Ma foi!*

"The tiger has broken out of his den" was the first report. Then: "The monster was days at sea. The wretch has landed at Fréjus." As Napoléon marched toward Paris, the newspapers treated him with renewed respect: "The general has entered Lyon." As he came nearer, the nervous press gave him back his name: "Napoléon slept last night at Fontainebleau." Next came the return of title: "The emperor proceeds to the Tuileries today." And finally, "His imperial majesty will address his loyal subjects tomorrow."

This anecdote shows the vagaries of public opinion, especially as reflected in press coverage, and was expressed in shorthand by Buchanan's "The beast is coming," whether he knows it or not.

A rhetorical device that my former Nixon speechwriting colleague uses to deflect or derogate questions about the opinions he has expressed in print over the years is *golden oldies*. When Ron Brownstein of The Los Angeles Times began, "When you talk about immigration today . . ." Buchanan anticipated a quotation coming back to haunt him and interrupted with a smiling "The *golden oldies*," giving the inflammatory opinion an aura of antiquity and thus irrelevance.

This is a show-business term for a song or movie of a previous era still regarded with fondness and surrounded with nostalgia. The first usage in the Random House Historical Dictionary of American Slang is from Time magazine of Dec. 2, 1966, describing the recording "Gallant Men," by Senator Everett Dirksen: "The platter . . . promises to become what the deejays call a '*Golden Oldy*.'"

Bob Shannon of WCBS-FM thinks the predecessor phrase was "oldies but goodies," at a time when the word *oldie* was pejorative. The music industry's new term was influenced later by the gold records symbolizing sellers of a million or more.

My own speculation is that *golden*, a color associated with autumn's dying leaves, was reinforced by 50 years of marriage being called the "golden wedding anniversary" and led to old age being euphemized as "the golden years." In the phrase *golden oldie* (the singular is spelled with an *ie* or a *y*), the adjective gives a nostalgic glow to the noun, adding the value of gold to the age.

It shakes sere seers like me to hear songs from the 1980s, with which I am just beginning to get familiar, referred to with this phrase. Madonna's "Like a Virgin" is not even a brass oldie in my book; if it ain't "As Time Goes By," it's not vintage.

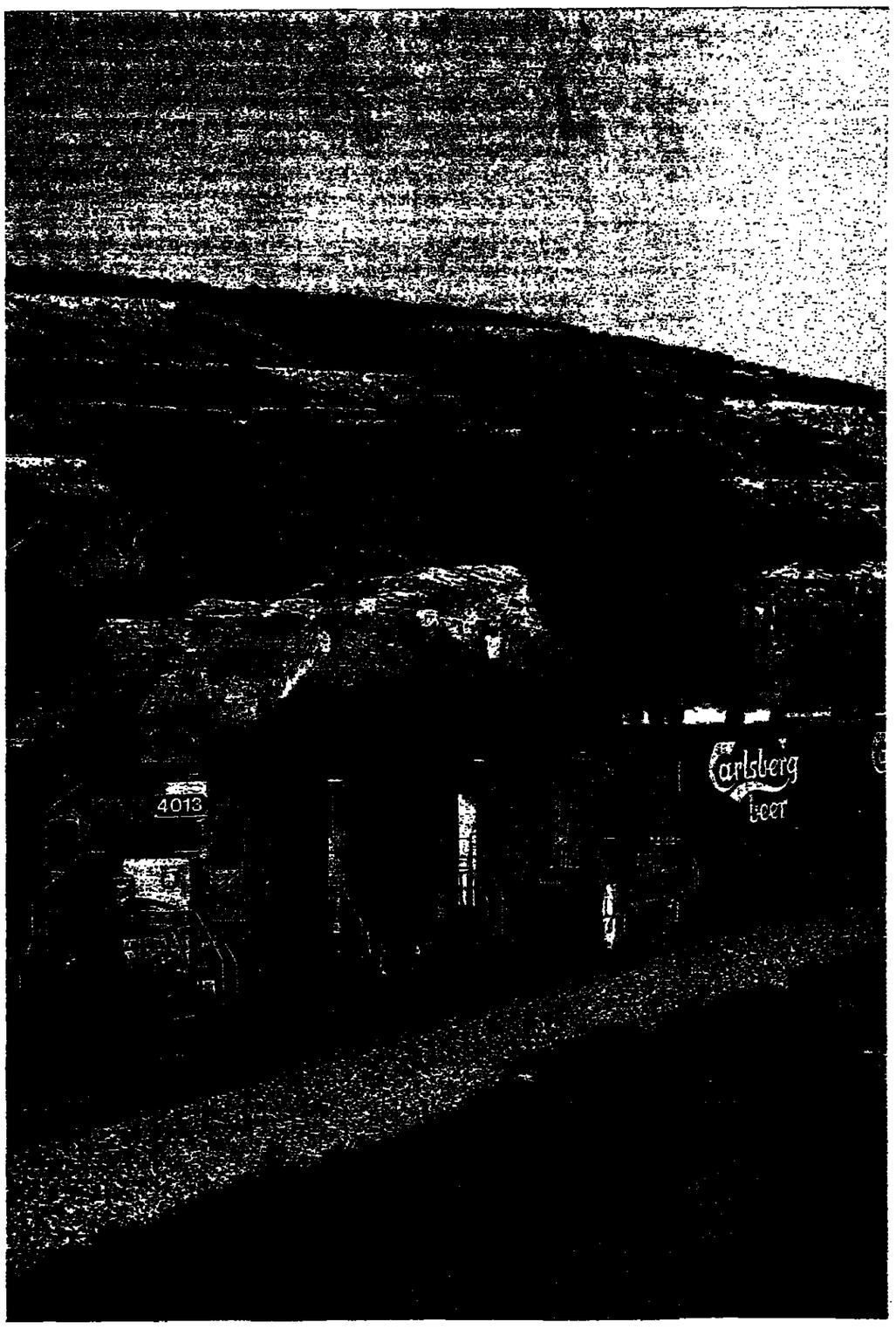
□

In South Carolina, the intellectual anti-intellectual attacked his opponents for the "vapidity and hollowness" of their campaigns. This criticism caused Cokie Roberts and Charles Gibson on "Good Morning America" the next day to marvel at the use of an unfamiliar word on television in a political campaign.

Unfamiliar? *Vapid* is a word used more in writing than in speech, but its seeming closeness to *vacuum* and *vacuous* gives most listeners the idea that the meaning has something to do with emptiness. That's true, though the words are unrelated.

Vapid is rooted in the Latin *vapidus*, "tasteless" (*in its original flavor-free sense*), and may be related to *vapor*, which also has no zip. The synonym is *insipid*, also rooted in "lacking in taste or savor." The noun, on the analogy of *rapid-rapidity*, is *vapidity*, which — if spoken with scorn and backed up with a familiar synonym like *hollowness* — may be used on the campaign trail.

New York Times Service



Probably the best beer in the world.

Belarus and Russia to Seal Union

Ex-Soviet Republic Moving Toward a Full Merger

By David Hoffman
Washington Post Service

MOSCOW — Russia and Belarus have announced plans to sign a treaty April 2 under which they intend to form a new union, although each state would retain its sovereignty.

President Alexander Lukashenko of Belarus, who has made closer integration with Russia a priority for his economically strapped former Soviet republic of 10.2 million people, reached agreement on the plan in meetings here at the weekend with President Boris N. Yeltsin and Prime Minister Viktor S. Chernomyrdin.

Although terms of the unification remain unclear, the treaty would be the closest any former Soviet republic has come to merging into Russia. The announcement follows a nonbinding, Communist-sponsored resolution approved by the lower house of the Russian Parliament a week ago, calling for nullification of the 1991 pact that broke up the Soviet Union.

That vote was sharply criticized by Mr. Yeltsin, Russia's neighbors and the United States as a coercive step toward restoring the Soviet empire.

But Mr. Yeltsin has also made closer ties with the former Soviet republics a selling point in his re-election campaign, and his agreement with Belarus could prove a useful counterweight to the Communist presidential candidate, Gennady Zyuganov, who leads in recent polls. Russia would face obstacles, however, in any full-scale re-integration with Belarus.

Belarus, which borders Poland, Russia, Lithuania, Latvia and Ukraine, has lacked a strong national identity since the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, and it has changed the least of the seven former Soviet republics in eastern Europe.

Under Mr. Lukashenko, Belarus has dismantled border posts along the frontier with Russia, restored Russian as the official language and granted Russia leases for two bases in Belarus. Last month, Russia and Belarus signed an agreement renouncing mutual debts, including the $910 million that Belarus owed to the Russian natural gas monopoly Gazprom.

Mr. Lukashenko has sold the notion of closer integration with Russia as a way out of Belarus's economic troubles. But a member of Parliament in Minsk, Mikhail Goryn, told Russia's independent television network Saturday that creation of a new union would be a "repetition of the previous mistakes" of the Soviet era.

"I think this is the end, or the beginning of the end, of the Belarusan independent state," he said. "I think this is also a big defeat for the democratic Russian state. There can be no democracy in an empire."

Mr. Lukashenko said the treaty with Russia would create a "unified state," but the term seemed deliberately vague. The Interfax news agency quoted Mr. Chernomyrdin as saying it might be called a confederation, a union or something else. Sergei Medvedev, Mr. Yeltsin's spokesman, said it might be called "a closer union or a community."

Mr. Lukashenko said there would be a joint Supreme Council with "extensive powers" made up of presidents, prime ministers and legislative chiefs from each state, and an "inter-parliamentary congress" drawn from each legislature.

■ Opposition in Minsk

Russia's opposition Communists and extreme nationalists on Sunday backed moves to create a union with Belarus, but 10,000 people marched through Minsk to denounce the plans, Reuters reported from Moscow.

Scuffles broke out with policemen as the crowd marched through the Belatus capital chanting "Long live Belarus" and "Independence" to attack the planned union.

Iraqis Elect A Parliament

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Iraqis voted for a new Parliament on Sunday in elections seen as a bid by President Saddam Hussein's government to improve its image.

The elections were the first for Parliament in Iraq since 1989, but all candidates have been approved in advance by a government screening committee. They must be supporters of the 1968 coup that brought the Iraqi leader's Arab Ba'ath Socialist Party to power.

There were 689 candidates running for 220 seats in the Parliament, which has few powers and is invariably loyal to Mr. Saddam.

Election officials said they expected 90 percent of Iraq's 8 million registered voters to cast ballots.

Thirty other seats were not contested because they are in Iraq's semiautonomous Kurdish north.

Allies Pressing Bosnians

Threat Brings New Promises on POW Release

Reuters

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina — Bosnia's formerly warring parties prepared to release more prisoners on Sunday after the major powers threatened to withhold reconstruction aid if they reneged on obligations undertaken in the Dayton peace accord.

"We have a commitment from the Serb side to release all prisoners from noon today except those who are considered war criminals," said Colum Murphy, spokesman for Carl Bildt, the High Representative in Bosnia.

"We expect to take Mr. Ninko Djuric to Pale to release him there, and we are calling for the Serbs to release Hidajet Delic," he said. "We also understand that the Croats have committed to release 10 prisoners today or tomorrow."

Mr. Djuric is a Serb journalist captured by government forces in north-central Bosnia last summer. Mr. Delic, a Muslim photojournalist, was arrested in a Serb-held suburb of Sarajevo on Feb. 8. Under the terms of the Dayton peace agreement, which brought an end to 43 months of war in Bosnia, all prisoners of war were to have been released by Jan. 1.

Hundreds of people held by the three Bosnian factions were freed, but 152 others were still under detention as recently as Friday, despite repeated promises to release them.

Prime ministers from five major powers met in Moscow on Saturday and vowed to delay an April conference to raise funds for Bosnian reconstruction if the parties did not meet their prisoner-release obligations.

The Bosnian government then freed 109 prisoners from a Tuzla military jail on Saturday evening.

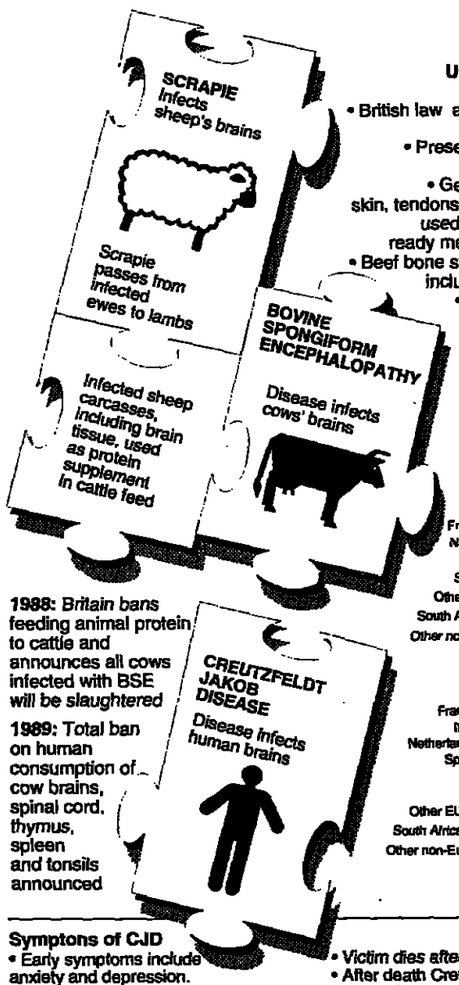
It admitted that it was holding 6 other prisoners there who it believes are war criminals.

The government said Sunday that the prisoners' dossiers had been forwarded to the UN war crimes tribunal at the Hague.

Deaths Linked to Mad Cow Disease

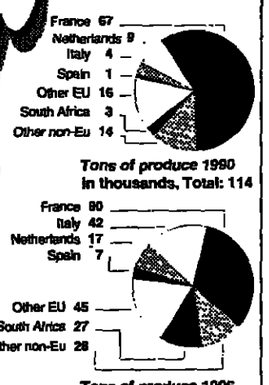
News that 8 people died of a brain disease probably contracted from eating beef contaminated with bovine spongiform encephalopathy caused widespread alarm in Britain, where the government has sought for a decade to play down fears about 'mad cow disease'.

Bovine spongiform encephalopathy in the food chain
1986: First case reported in Britain



Unexpected foods with beef products
- British law allows up to 20% beef in pork sausages.
- Present in lamb and chicken processed meats.
- Gelatine, made by boiling skin, tendons and ligaments of cows, used in jellies, biscuits, pies, ready meals and sausage skins.
- Beef bone stock in gravy and stock, including lamb and chicken.
- Rennet, extract of calf stomach, used to clot milk.

U.K. beef exports by destination



1988: Britain bans feeding animal protein to cattle and announces all cows infected with BSE will be slaughtered

1989: Total ban on human consumption of cow brains, spinal cord, thymus, spleen and tonsils announced

Symptons of CJD
- Early symptoms include anxiety and depression.
- Loss of memory and co-ordination, blindness and weight loss as brain and nervous system are destroyed.
- Power of speech is lost and the body becomes rigid.
- Victim dies after about 13 months
- After death Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease can be diagnosed by spongy appearance of brain tissue under microscope and the presence of large quantities of the prion protein in the brain.

Source: Meat and Livestock Commission

Reuters

GERMANS: *Big Gains for Kohl*

Continued from Page 1

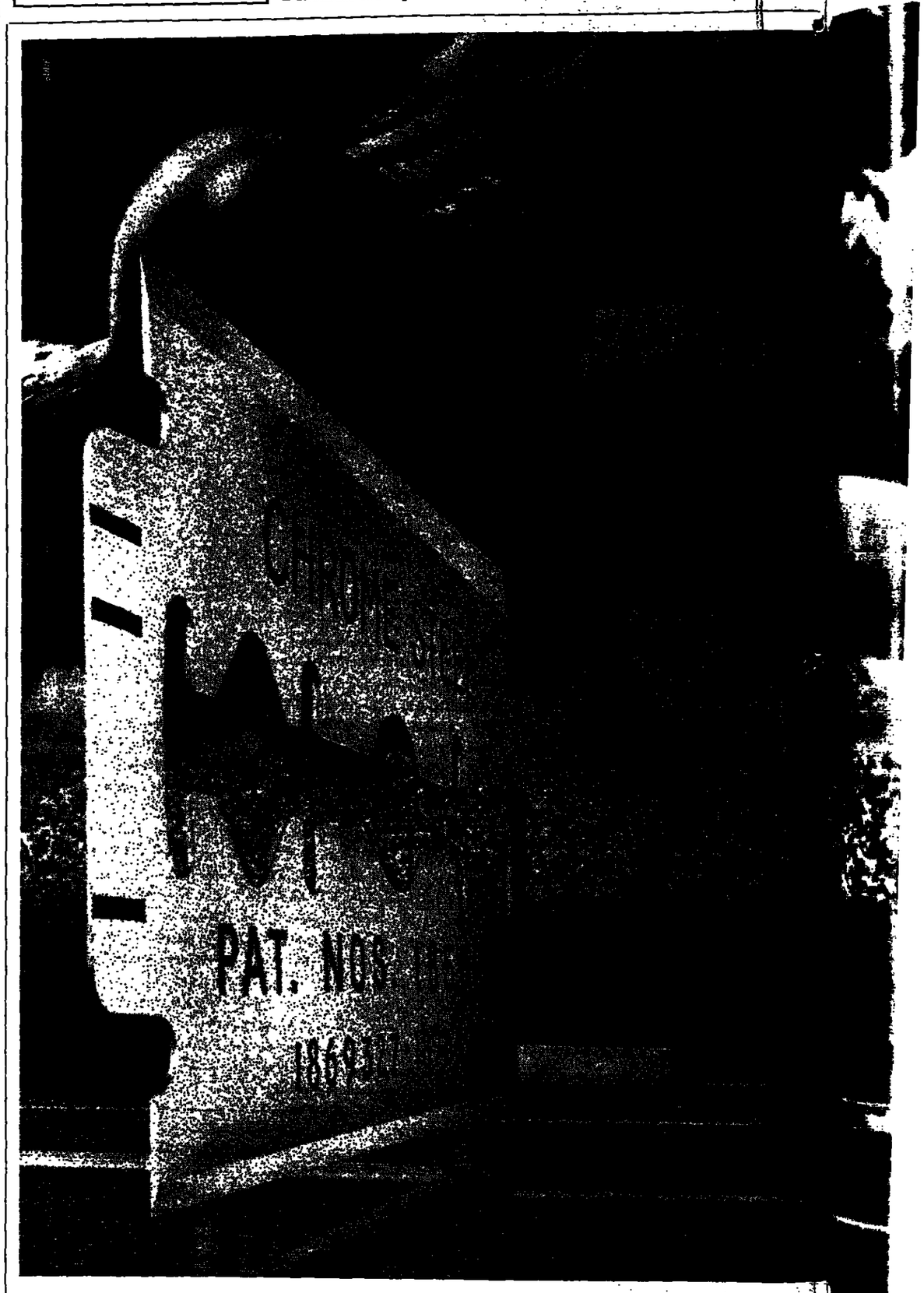
results "fantastic." Another senior Free Democrat declared: "The free-fall is over."

In practical terms, the vote means the Christian Democrats in Baden-Württemberg can now end their uneasy coalition with the Social Democrats to enter a partnership with the Free Democrats, reflecting the line-up in Bonn.

In Schleswig-Holstein, the Social Democrats will be forced to build a coalition with either the Free Democrats or the Greens after eight years of exclusive state rule. Social Democrat losses were most dramatic of all there — down 6 percent to 40 percent of the vote. The Christian Democrats won 37 percent, a gain of 3 percent; the Free Democrats gained slightly, to secure 5.7 percent, and the Greens gained 3 percent to come in at about 8.2 percent.

In Rhineland-Palatinate, a Social Democrat-Free Democrat coalition seemed set to continue, despite Social Democrat losses. The Christian Democrats lost slightly to secure 38 percent, the Social Democrats were down almost 5 percent at 40.1 percent, and the Free Democrats gained 2.2 percent to 9.1 percent, according to the projections.

The results were all the more striking since unemployment in Germany has risen to more than 4 million while the economy has slowed. At a pre-election news conference, Mr. Kohl warned his compatriots that deep spending cuts would be needed next year if Germany — Europe's economic power-house — were to meet criteria for the next stage of European integration: currency union.



BEEF: *EU Scrambles to Deal With Scare*

Continued from Page 1

lico, contended Sunday that controls against the disease are deficient.

Dr. Meslin said the cause of the disease might be linked to a change in the way the animal by-products from slaughter were rendered and processed. He also said that the inclusion of offal, waste meat and bone in cattle feed — a practice that was banned in Britain in the late 1980s — might have sparked the epidemic.

Britain last week extended the feed ban to all animals, to prevent the disease from crossing from one species to another.

Mad cow disease and Creutzfeldt-Jakob are both caused by a little known and slow-acting infectious agent known as a prion, or virino. Another disease caused by prions is scrapie in sheep, and some scientists believe that cattle may have been infected when waste meat from mutton was included in their feed. This led the Sunday Times in London to report that sheep in Britain also may have to be destroyed.

But Dr. Meslin said that the disease may well have been a bovine strain from the beginning, and that it was spread by changes in feeding methods. Feed containing meat and bones also has been used by farmers in Europe, but to a much lesser extent than in Britain, Dr. Meslin said.

The World Health Organization said last week that the measures Britain has taken to contain the disease made an import ban unnecessary.

Those measures included a requirement that the meat from any animal more than 30 months old must be removed from the bone in special plants. Scientists say red meat is safe, and Dr. Meslin said the infectious agent had never been detected in milk.

A major problem in detecting the disease, Dr. Meslin added, is that it is difficult to diagnose until symptoms appear, such as stumbling. An apparently healthy animal can be sent to slaughter shortly before the symptoms become manifest. That is why some scientists are recommending that all older cattle, which may have eaten infected feed before the ban went into effect, should be destroyed.

"They could still be incubating the disease," said Sir Richard Southwood, who led an inquiry into the problem in 1989.

Mrs. Clinton Comforts Kin of GIs in Bosnia

The Associated Press

BAUMHOLDER, Germany — Carrying mail, movies and candy for U.S. troops in Bosnia, Hillary Rodham Clinton opened an eight-day European goodwill tour Sunday.

Before flying to Tuzla, the headquarters of U.S. troops serving in the NATO-led peace enforcement mission in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Mrs. Clinton stopped at Baumholder to show support for the families of men and women serving in Bosnia. The bulk of U.S. forces in Bosnia came from the 1st Armored Division stationed in Germany.

Mrs. Clinton's plane was laden with two crates of gifts and mail from Fort Polk, Louisiana. The White House was sending along six cases of chocolate candies. From Bosnia, Mrs. Clinton will go to Turkey and then to Greece.

MYTH: *Study Aims at Debunking Marco Polo's Chinese Travels*

Continued from Page 1

the World": his depiction of the layout of Beijing streets; his elaborate account of the court of Kublai Khan, the Mongol emperor of China; the tales about far-flung towns such as Yangzhou and Hangzhou; his descriptions of porcelain and paper money. For centuries, historians have taken the story at face value.

But Ms. Wood works in the manner of an Agatha Christie heroine who analyzes not only details that are present but also details that are missing.

How is it that the Mongolian Yuan dynasty records produce no account of Polo's visit? Why does he fail to describe Chinese calligraphy, so different from European alphabet-based writing? Or for that matter, tea? Or bound feet, a detail that has attracted the eye of numerous visitors to China? Why is the itinerary so tortured? And how did Polo miss the Great Wall? Ms. Wood also notes similarities of Polo's descriptions to those in other writings, notably those of the Islamic author Rashid Din, and suggests there must be a common source for their work, probably a lost Persian travel book.

The story, she asserts, may have been the work of a certain "Messer Rusticello," a romance writer who shared a jail cell with Marco Polo in 1296, when each was taken prisoner during a Venetian war with Genoa, a year after Polo's return.

But Ms. Wood argues that the historical value of Polo's tale is intact. "The work gathered together what was known about a distant part of the world from sources that are otherwise lost," she said.

But Italy's top expert on the subject regards Ms. Wood's study as flawed. "There is far too much detail, far too much information for this to be a fake," said Ugo Tucci, a retired professor of economic history at Venice University.

Mr. Tucci says Ms. Wood is guilty of applying current standards to the Middle Ages. That Polo might have included hearsay or other sources into his work was not unusual for the time.

"Things heard were as valued as things seen to the medieval observer," he said.

The zigzag itinerary is typical of the way merchants in Asia traveled, Mr. Tucci added. "There was no such thing as going from Venice to Beijing. That kind of trip is a modern concept," he said.

Mr. Tucci concludes that Marco Polo's account contains too much detail to be fiction, and it was the kind of detail of interest to a merchant.

"Polo was far from the first to travel to China. What made him unusual was that he put the adventure down in writing," he said.

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INTERNATIONAL

U.S. Blacks Bitterly Debate Reports of Slavery in Sudan

By Steven A. Holmes
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — More than 130 years after the 13th Amendment officially ended slavery in the United States, an angry debate has broken out among blacks over the alleged acquiescence of the government of Sudan in a black slave trade, and about the support that Louis Farrakhan, head of the Nation of Islam, has voiced for the Sudanese government.

"I don't know that Americans as a whole know much about the de facto practice of slavery in Sudan," said Randall Robinson, president of the TransAfrica Forum, a group that seeks to influence U.S. policy in Africa and the Caribbean.

Referring to Mr. Farrakhan, he added, "I'm sure that if more people had known, they would have been shocked and *disappointed* with his statements of support for Sudan."

While much of the attention given to Mr. Farrakhan's recent visit to countries in Africa and the Middle East has focused on his meetings with leaders of Libya, Iran and Iraq, it was his Feb. 8 stop in Sudan when he was quoted by the government-owned news service as saying, "more than 40 million American Muslims stand with Sudan," that has caused the most comment in black newspapers and on radio and television.

That is because Mr. Farrakhan's support of Sudan comes as the Islamic government of Lieutenant General Omar Ahmad Bashir, the president, is engaged in a civil war that pits the largely Arab Muslim north against the mainly Christian and animist blacks in the south.

In recent years, officials in the United Nations and the U.S. government have accused Sudan of condoning a traffic in human beings.

According to these organizations, Sudanese soldiers and Muslim militias who have been armed by the government have transported captured blacks to the north, where they are used as household slaves.

"It's war booty," said Jemera Rone, a field representative for Human Rights Watch/Africa who has visited the Sudan twice in the last three years. "They're given free license by the government. They're not prosecuted. In fact, the government denies that it is taking place."

But Mr. Farrakhan has expressed skepticism of the reports of slavery. "Where is the proof?" he demanded at a news conference in Washington two weeks ago.

He and his followers have suggested that the reports of slavery in Sudan are part of a Zionist conspiracy to discredit an Islamic state and the Nation of Islam.

Louis Farrakhan appears *exceedingly sensitive to the accusation* that he is supporting a government that condones the practice.

As a descendant of slaves who has frequently condemned the United States for having practiced slavery, Mr. Farrakhan appears exceedingly sensitive to the accusation that he is supporting a government that condones the practice.

The depth of that sensitivity was evident at the news conference where he was presented with an award by the National Newspaper Publishers Association, a black trade organization.

After answering questions about his visit to Libya, Mr. Farrakhan was about to leave the room when a shouted question about slavery in Sudan brought him back.

"If slavery exists, why don't you go as a member of the press?" he asked his questioners. "And you look inside of the Sudan, and if you find it, then you come back and tell the American people what you have found. But don't let the State Department be your official source."

According to human-rights groups, the practice of slavery has been an offshoot of the civil war that has raged intermittently since Sudan gained its independence in 1956. Though the practice has been officially outlawed, these groups assert that the government and the National Islamic Front, led by Dr. Hassan Turabi, perhaps the country's most powerful figure, have turned a blind eye to reports of its use.

The American Anti-Slavery Group has been faxing materials on the subject to black newspapers in an effort to build up support for abolition of slavery in Sudan. "We always thought that blacks should lead this battle," said Charles Jacobs, president of the group.

But the fact that Mr. Jacobs is Jewish has prompted Nation of Islam officials to denounce *the campaign as part of a Zionist plot to drive a* wedge between African Americans and an African Islamic nation.

Ex-Ruler Wins Election in Benin

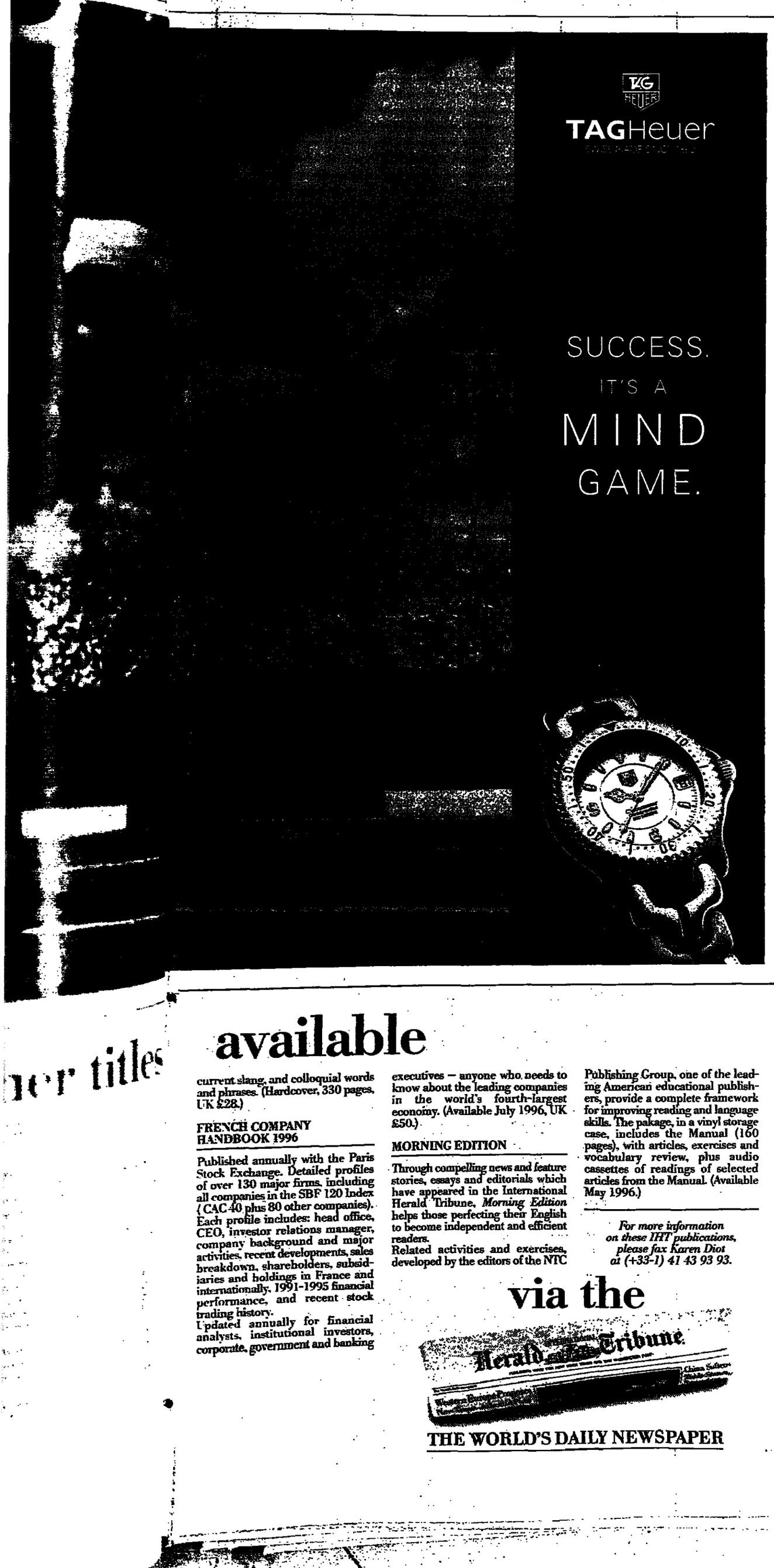
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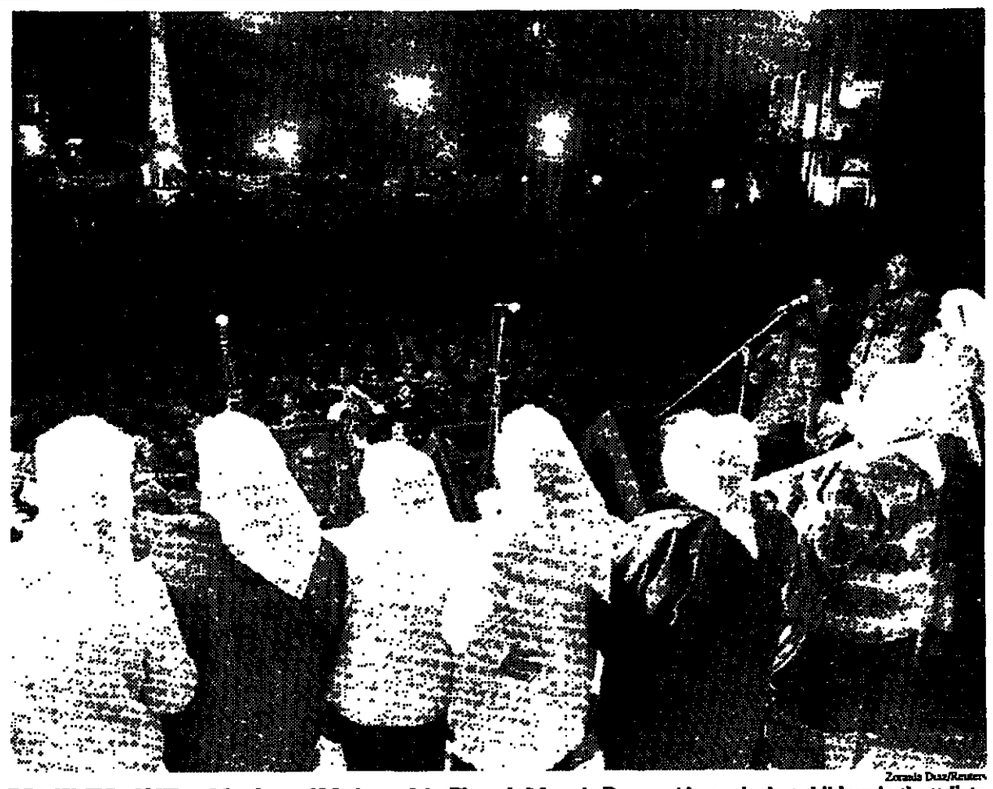
COTONOU, Benin — The former Marxist military ruler, General Mathieu Kérékou, won Benin's second multiparty presidential election, according to provisional results announced by the constitutional court on Sunday.

The announcement of General Kérékou's dramatic return to defeat President Nicephore Soglo *in last Monday's runoff* unleashed a wave of rejoicing by his supporters in the nation's main city, Cotonou.

But final confirmation of his 52.49 percent victory must await a ruling from the court on any further legal challenge from Mr. Soglo, whose supporters earlier denounced what they called "an arsenal of fraud."

The court, guardian of electoral independence and arbiter of all disputes, announced the result after a long and tense wait during which the home of one of its *members was sprayed by gunfire.* It gave Mr. Soglo 47.51 percent of the vote.





Zoraida Diaz/Reuters

REMEMBRANCE — Members of Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo in Buenos Aires, who lost children in the "dirty war" of the late-1970s, marking the 20th anniversary of the 1976 coup that opened a reign of terror in Argentina.

Hamas Vows to Continue Its Attacks

Israeli Crackdown Will Only Breed More Violence, Guerrillas Say

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

AMMAN, Jordan — A spokesman here for the Islamic Resistance Movement Hamas vowed Sunday that the group will attack targets in Israel again, saying a crackdown on Palestinian Muslim militants after a series of suicide bombings would not deter it.

He also said that Israeli moves to counter the attacks — the collective punishment of Palestinians, the blowing up of homes of suicide bombers and the closure of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip — could only breed more violence ahead of the May 29 elections in Israel.

"These policies are only creating more humiliation and bitterness," the group's spokesman in Jordan, Ibrahim Ghosheh, said in Amman. He added: "Therefore, no one can guarantee there will be no operation before May 29."

Israel and the Palestinian Authority that runs Gaza and parts of the West Bank under the 1993 interim peace accord, fear further attacks could threaten the election hopes of Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

More than 1,500 activists and supporters of Hamas and Islamic Jihad have been arrested since 58 people were killed in four suicide bomb attacks in February and March.

"Hamas is facing the most violent campaign," Mr. Ghosheh said. "But we are sure, as in the past, they will fail in their effort to uproot the movement, and we will survive the crisis and be able to endure the pains that we are experiencing."

He added: "Resisting the occupation is a line which Hamas will never drop as long as the Zionist occupation controls all parts of Palestine, thousands of detainees and prisoners remain in their jails and it continues its operations of oppression, starvation and killings.

Many Palestinians, who form a large percentage of Jordan's 4 million people, oppose the peace moves with Israel and are sympathetic to Hamas's views.

Prime Minister Peres said Sunday that Israel had received warnings that Islamic militants were planning more terrorist attacks and therefore could not end the closure of the West Bank and Gaza, Israeli radio said.

Mr. Peres told his cabinet that the closure would remain in effect until the president of the Palestinian Authority, Yasser Arafat, arrested all leaders of Hamas, the report said.

As part of a policy of gradually easing the closure, however, Israel will allow in Palestinians who require emergency medical treatment, the radio reported.

And a government spokesman said it has also allowed Palestinian laborers to work in Jewish settlements inside the West Bank for the first time in several weeks.

The closure keeps tens of thousands of Palestinians from jobs in Israel and costs the impoverished Palestinian economy millions of dollars a day.

Last week, Israel allowed trucks to carry food into Gaza and permitted several thousand workers to return to jobs in an industrial area along the border.

In Gaza, a group of Palestinian businessmen on Sunday demonstrated against the closure and said they would boycott Israeli goods in retaliation.

Mohammed Qedweh, head of the Chamber of Commerce in Gaza, said the organization was against violence, "but we refuse to pay the price of their security." *(Reuters, AP)*

AMERICAN TOPICS

Taking Home an Oscar: Not Always a Career-Maker

When the 68th Academy Awards are bestowed on Monday night, they may or may not bring millions of dollars in earnings and indelible fame to their recipients.

Audrey Hepburn is the classic example of a virtual unknown who soars immediately to stardom by winning the Oscar for her first American film, "Roman Holiday" in 1953.

Ernest Borgnine seemed destined for a career as a film heavy when his sensitive portrayal in "Marty" took the Oscar in 1955. He prospered, as did Julie Andrews after her first film, "Mary Poppins" in 1964.

But Paul Scofield, who won for "A Man for All Seasons" in 1966, has remained a theater star. He never again sought or achieved prominence in films. Marlee Matlin has been little seen since "Children of a Lesser God" (1986).

The pop singer Cher proved her acting talent with "Moonstruck" in 1987. Louise Fletcher won for "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" in 1975. The film careers of both have languished since.

Some others are awarded Oscars at the end of their careers. Formally, these are for a single film, but in fact are regarded as a tribute to their entire body of work. Among these recipients are John Wayne for "True Grit" in 1969, Henry Fonda for "On Golden Pond" in 1981 and Jessica Tandy for "Driving Miss Daisy" in 1989.

Short Takes

Opponents of smoking are fighting a proposed Missouri law outlawing cigarette sales to minors and setting up a state agency to enforce force the ban. Why? Because the law would invalidate local ordinances that are often far stricter than the state law. A tobacco industry spokesman says the aim is to eliminate the "crazy quilt" of local ordinances. The reply of anti-smoking forces has been, in effect, "Uh huh." Said Wally Richter, spokesman for the Missouri Coalition on Smoking OR Health, "There's more to this bill than meets the eye."

Graffiti is beginning to make a comeback on New York subway trains and stations, a decade after a hard-fought campaign virtually eliminated it, The New York Times reports. Spray paint has largely been replaced by marking pens, crayons and sharp objects.. Crayon marks are especially difficult to get off, transit authorities say, while insisting that the problem is under control.

The Attwater's prairie chicken, an endangered grouse that once numbered in the hundreds of thousands, has moved closer to extinction. Federal biologists estimate that only 42 remain alive in the wild — a third fewer than last year and less than a tenth of the 1993 population. At the turn of the century, the Attwater's prairie chicken numbered at least a million in the Gulf Coast areas of Texas and Louisiana. It was decimated by over-hunting, agriculture and development. The only hope for saving the prairie chicken, experts say, lies in a captive breeding program.

The long arm of the law reached out last week and collared John A. Diaz, 27, in Georgetown, Guyana. He is accused in Quincy, Massachusetts, of a 1993 murder. The Norfolk County district attorney, William D. Delahunt, said Mr. Diaz, who had assumed an elaborate false identity, was caught after a man who worked out with him in a Georgetown gym recognized him *from a bootlegged broadcast of the TV* program "Unsolved Mysteries."

About People

Sister Helen Prejean, the death penalty opponent whose book "Dead Man Walking" inspired the film now in U.S. theaters, will receive the 1996 Laetare Medal, considered the most prestigious honor for American Roman Catholics. The New Orleans nun, 56, who is played in the movie by **Susan Sarandon,** works as a spiritual counselor to death-row inmates. She will receive the award May 19 during graduation ceremonies at the University of Notre Dame.

International Herald Tribune

available

current slang, and colloquial words and phrases. (Hardcover, 330 pages, UK £28.)

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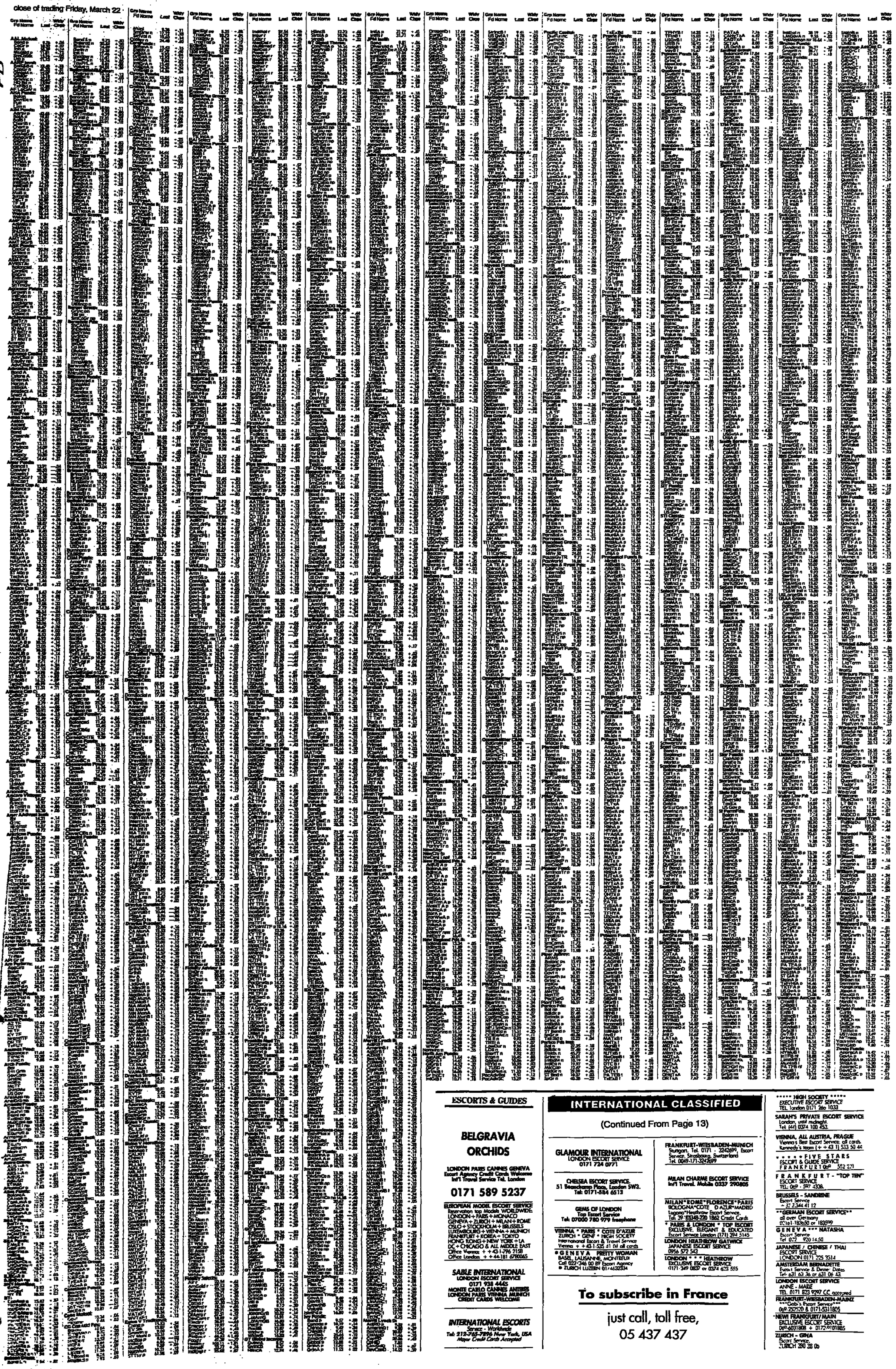


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New Issues Bloom Despite Sell-Off

By Carl Gewirtz
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — Although the recent sell-off in bonds translates into a bleak first quarter for investors, underwriters have reason to be cheerful: Issuing activity is running at a record pace.

Preliminary data from Salomon Brothers Inc. show that the equivalent of $156.4 billion was raised in the international bond market in the opening three months of the year. That is nearly 60 percent more than the average quarterly rate of last year and 8 percent above the previous record of $145 billion set in the first quarter of 1993.

Nearly half of the new business was in January, which set a monthly record of almost $72 billion — an 18 percent gain over the previous high, in January 1995.

Issues denominated in dollars amounted to $51.2 billion, or 33 percent of the first-quarter activity — a relatively unchanged market share since the currency started recovering from the record lows set against the yen and the Deutsche mark last spring.

The mark reclaimed title to the No. 2 slot, with a volume equal to $27.9 billion for an 18 percent market share. It displaced the yen, which had placed second since the first quarter of 1993. The yen's market share peaked at 26 percent in the second quarter of last year as the currency appreciated to record highs and has since lost share as the currency weakened. Currently, the yen accounts for 11 percent of total activity, with issues amounting to the equivalent of $17.3 billion.

John Lipsky, Salomon's chief economist, said Japanese investors were responsible for the market share shift. "The reversal of the yen's strength last year and the uncertain prospects about Japan's economic policy this year have encouraged investors to move into European securities," he said. Indeed, statistics show Japanese investors purchased the equivalent of 428 billion yen ($4.0 billion) worth of mark-denominated paper just in January — 9 percent more than they bought during all of last year.

The British pound displaced the Swiss franc for the fourth most active currency sector, with an 8 percent share of total activity on volume equal to $12 billion. The French franc took fifth place, with a 6 percent market share on issues totaling $9.8 billion, while the Swiss franc dropped to sixth, with a market share of 4 percent on volume of $6.6 billion.

As for the outlook in the second quarter, Mr. Lipsky said he doubted that the "data shock" of a big increase in U.S. employment in February would be repeated. But he expected the U.S. market to stay jittery until investors got a clear idea about whether the acceleration in growth seen in the jobs data signaled a rate of increase above 2.5 percent or whether growth will continue at a pace consistent with low inflation.

But the 18-day-old strike that crippled General Motors Corp. will have muddied the data and therefore leave open the debate on how strong the economy really is. Mr. Lipsky estimated that a total shutdown of GM for one week knocks 0.3 percentage point off monthly industrial production and about 0.25 percentage point off the quarterly gross national product.

By contrast, European markets have the capacity to perform better. Jan Loeys of J.P. Morgan said that while uncertainty in the U.S. market was bound to affect sentiment in Europe, markets on the Continent were better cushioned by their very steep yield curves.

New Data Revive Hopes for Uptrend in Prices

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

NEW YORK — The bond market's gains last week may continue as fears of rapid economic growth recede.

"Looking out over the next six to 12 months, bond investors have reason to be optimistic," said Harvey Hirschhorn of Stein, Roe & Farnham. While February jobs data depicted a robust economy, prompting a sell-off, he noted later data had shown a weaker economy and rekindled hopes for lower rates.

A weaker-than-expected February retail sales report and an unexpected decline in the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia's March manufacturing index have eased concern that the economy is rebounding too quickly.

The Treasury market came under pressure last week, traders said, as some investors sold government paper to buy into Walt Disney Co.'s $2.6 billion bond sale. The Disney issue of 5- and 10-year notes increased by $600 million on Friday, the day of the sale.

Even so, Andrew Bremner, a senior trader at Nomura Securities International in New York, noted "this is the first

U.S. CREDIT MARKETS

Friday in a long time when bonds have not totally collapsed."

For the week, bonds posted the second-biggest gain of 1996, with the yield on the benchmark 30-year Treasury falling to 6.64 percent from 6.74 percent.

Yields should fall as the year goes on, said Mark Taborsky of Abacus Financial Group, adding, "I just don't believe this growth can continue." *(Bloomberg, Knight-Ridder)*

Most Active International Bonds

The 250 most active international bonds traded through the Euroclear system for the week ending March 22. Prices supplied by Telekurs.

Australian Dollar

Rnk	Name	Cpn	Maturity	Price	Yield
126	Ontario	5	11/09/98	90.2257	5.5400
221	Sweden	5	11/30/98	92.4216	5.4100

Austrian Schilling

Rnk	Name	Cpn	Maturity	Price	Yield
199	Austria	5¼	03/15/01	98.9500	5.3100
210	Austria	6⅛	06/20/05	101.6000	6.7700

Belgian Franc

Rnk	Name	Cpn	Maturity	Price	Yield
178	Belgium	7¾	12/22/00	108.6000	7.1400
189	Belgium 15	6¾	05/25/97	103.6200	6.5100
209	Belgium	7	04/29/99	106.0900	6.6000

British Pound

Rnk	Name	Cpn	Maturity	Price	Yield
152	Britain Tsy	6	08/10/99	96.6250	6.2100

Canadian Dollar

Rnk	Name	Cpn	Maturity	Price	Yield
195	Canada	8¾	12/01/05	107.2000	8.1600
228	Canada	7½	03/01/01	99.4720	7.5400

Danish Krone

Rnk	Name	Cpn	Maturity	Price	Yield
7	Denmark	8	03/15/06	102.6000	7.8000
31	Denmark	7	12/15/04	97.5700	7.1700
39	Denmark	9	11/15/98	108.7400	8.2800
41	Denmark	9	11/15/00	109.8000	8.2000
57	Denmark	8	05/15/03	105.0400	7.6200
59	Denmark	6	12/10/99	100.6300	5.9600
62	Denmark	7	08/15/97	103.1100	6.7900
72	Denmark	8	11/15/01	105.8800	7.5600
75	Denmark	7	11/10/24	84.9500	8.2400
99	Denmark T-bills	zero	07/01/96	98.8546	4.1700
115	Denmark	7	02/15/98	103.6800	6.7500
145	Nykredit	6	10/01/26	80.7000	7.4300
164	Denmark	9	11/15/96	102.7500	8.7600
184	Denmark	6¼	02/10/97	101.4000	6.1600

Deutsche Mark

Rnk	Name	Cpn	Maturity	Price	Yield
1	Germany	5¾	08/22/00	102.1300	5.6300
2	Germany	6	01/05/06	96.6433	6.2100
3	Germany	5⅞	05/15/00	102.7325	5.7200
4	Germany	6⅞	05/12/05	102.7250	6.6900
5	Germany	6½	10/14/05	100.0017	6.5000
6	Germany	5⅛	11/21/00	99.6200	5.1400
8	Germany	6½	03/15/00	105.1740	6.1800
9	Germany	6	02/16/06	96.5840	6.2100
10	Germany	7⅜	01/03/05	106.1100	6.9500
11	Germany	8	01/21/02	110.5475	7.2400
13	Treuhand	7	11/25/99	107.1200	6.5300
15	Germany	8	03/20/97	104.4200	7.6600
17	Treuhand	7½	09/09/04	106.8100	7.0200
18	Germany	8	07/22/02	110.6500	7.2300
19	Germany	6⅝	01/20/98	104.7067	6.3300
20	Germany	7½	11/11/04	106.8833	7.0200
21	Germany	7	01/13/00	106.9880	6.5400
22	Germany	8¾	08/20/01	114.5500	7.6400
23	Germany	6¾	09/15/99	106.2300	6.3500
24	Treuhand	7⅛	01/29/03	105.6350	6.7400
25	Germany	6	02/20/98	103.7600	5.7800
26	Germany	8⅞	12/20/00	114.1300	7.7800
27	Germany	9	10/20/00	114.3400	7.8700
28	Germany	7¼	10/20/97	105.1800	6.8900
29	Germany	6⅜	05/20/98	104.6500	6.0900
30	Treuhand	6⅝	07/09/03	102.3550	6.4700
32	Treuhand	6⅞	06/11/03	103.8850	6.6200
33	Germany	6¼	01/04/24	88.3571	7.0700
34	Treuhand	6⅛	06/25/98	104.1400	5.8800
35	Treuhand	7¾	10/01/02	109.1167	7.1000
37	Treuhand	7⅜	12/02/02	107.1475	6.8800
38	Germany	8¼	07/21/97	105.8400	7.7900
40	Germany	6½	07/15/03	101.7000	6.3900
43	Germany	8¼	09/20/01	112.0100	7.3700
44	Germany	8½	02/20/01	112.7183	7.5400
45	Germany	9	01/22/01	114.6900	7.8500
46	Germany	8	09/22/97	106.0800	7.5400
47	Germany	6⅝	05/20/97	103.2000	6.1800
49	Treuhand	6½	04/23/03	101.9500	6.3800
51	Germany	6¾	04/22/03	103.4243	6.5300
52	Treuhand	5	01/14/99	101.6920	4.9200
53	Germany	5¼	11/20/97	102.3100	5.1300
54	Germany	5⅞	02/22/99	102.7750	5.2300
55	Germany	7	12/22/97	105.2100	6.6500
58	Treuhand	6¼	03/04/04	99.6340	6.2700
60	Germany	7½	12/20/02	105.8475	6.7300
61	Treuhand	6¾	05/13/04	102.3233	6.6000
63	Germany	8¾	07/20/00	113.0975	7.7400
64	Treuhand	6⅝	07/01/99	104.8500	6.0800
66	Germany	8½	08/21/00	112.3500	7.5700
67	Germany	8¾	05/21/01	112.4900	7.4500
68	Germany	5¾	08/20/98	103.5180	5.5500
69	Germany	7½	10/20/97	105.5600	7.1000
73	Germany	6⅞	12/02/98	106.2950	6.4700
74	Germany	6⅞	02/24/99	106.3550	6.4600
79	Treuhand	6	11/12/03	98.6325	6.0800
81	Germany	6	06/20/16	88.1486	6.8100
82	Germany	6⅛	05/20/99	104.3950	5.8700
84	Treuhand	5	12/17/98	101.7300	4.9100
85	Germany	6⅝	08/14/98	104.8640	6.0800
87	Germany	3.105	09/30/04	98.9583	3.1377
90	Treuhand	6⅛	03/26/98	104.0400	5.8900
93	Germany	6	09/15/03	99.1517	6.0500
95	Treuhand	6¼	07/29/99	104.5500	5.9800
96	Treuhand	5⅜	09/24/98	103.1813	5.4500
97	Germany	5¾	05/28/99	103.1200	5.5800
98	Germany	6¾	07/15/04	102.3850	6.5900
100	Germany	8½	09/20/96	102.4317	8.3000
101	Germany	7¼	10/21/02	106.7017	6.7900
102	Germany	7¾	02/21/00	109.3200	7.0900
103	Germany	8⅛	01/20/97	103.9883	8.0500
105	Germany	5¾	08/20/97	102.7800	5.5900
112	Treuhand	5⅝	04/29/99	103.3300	5.5600
116	Germany	7⅛	11/21/96	102.4400	6.9600
118	Germany	5¼	10/20/98	102.5600	5.1200
129	Germany	6½	02/20/97	102.7300	6.3300
130	Germany	8¾	05/22/00	113.0500	7.7400
134	Germany	8½	08/20/96	102.0200	8.3300
142	Germany	8½	04/22/96	100.3675	8.4700
146	World Bank	7⅛	04/12/05	103.6500	6.8700
150	Sweden	6½	03/05/08	96.6000	6.7300
151	Depfa	zero	02/22/01	97.5100	-
165	Germany	6¾	05/02/03	102.5033	6.5900
175	Germany	7¼	01/20/00	107.6575	6.7300
176	Germany	6⅛	08/20/97	103.5600	6.1600
183	Germany	6¼	02/20/98	104.0400	6.0100
190	Germany	6	03/20/97	102.4900	5.8500
191	DSL Fin	6	02/21/06	94.7000	6.3400
192	Germany	5¼	02/25/98	102.4150	5.1300
196	Germany	6⅝	01/20/98	104.1225	6.1200
201	Ontario	5	02/15/01	96.2500	5.1900
203	KFW	6	02/09/06	95.2800	6.3000
207	BadWuert L Fin	6⅞	06/22/05	100.4500	6.7200
218	Sweden	zero	01/28/97	96.5248	4.2100
231	Germany	6⅛	01/20/97	102.1800	5.9900
238	Austria	6	02/01/06	95.8000	6.2600
246	Germany	7	09/20/99	106.6000	6.5700

Dutch Guilder

Rnk	Name	Cpn	Maturity	Price	Yield
14	Netherlands	6¼	07/15/98	104.2500	6.0000
36	Netherlands	6	01/15/06	96.5500	6.2100
71	Netherlands	6¾	11/15/05	101.9000	6.6200
77	Netherlands	7	03/15/99	106.4500	6.5800
92	Netherlands	9	01/15/01	114.45	7.8600
107	Netherlands	7	06/15/05	103.7500	6.7500
108	Netherlands	6½	07/15/98	104.7500	6.2100
110	Netherlands	7	02/15/03	105.4500	6.6400
117	Netherlands	8¼	09/15/07	112.3000	7.3500
119	Netherlands	7½	06/15/99	107.9500	6.9500
122	Netherlands	5¾	01/15/04	96.9900	5.9300
136	Netherlands	7	05/15/99	106.4500	6.5800
137	Netherlands	7½	01/15/23	104.5000	7.1800
138	Netherlands	6¾	02/15/99	105.7000	6.3900
140	Netherlands	9	05/15/00	113¾	7.9100
147	Netherlands	8¼	02/15/02	112.0500	7.3600
149	Netherlands	7¾	01/15/00	108.9000	7.1200
158	Netherlands	7¾	03/01/05	108.8500	7.1200
163	Netherlands	7¼	10/01/04	105.9000	6.8500
166	Netherlands	8¼	02/15/07	112.3000	7.3500
169	Netherlands	7½	04/15/10	106.1000	7.0700
172	Netherlands	7½	11/15/99	108.2500	6.9300
173	Netherlands	8½	06/01/06	114⅛	7.4400
179	NBC	zero	05/31/96	98.8033	6.3800
212	Netherlands	8¼	02/15/00	110.6500	7.4600
214	Netherlands	8½	03/15/01	112.6000	7.5500
216	Netherlands	8¼	06/15/02	112¼	7.3500
226	Netherlands	6½	04/15/03	102.4500	6.3400
247	Netherlands	9	07/01/00	113.7800	7.9100

ECU

Rnk	Name	Cpn	Maturity	Price	Yield
80	France BTAN	5	03/16/99	98.1600	5.0900
86	France OAT	6	04/25/04	93.1000	6.4400
109	UK T-note	8	01/27/98	104.6250	7.6500
111	France BTAN	7¼	03/16/98	103.6300	7.0000
113	France OAT	8¼	04/25/22	102.8000	8.0300
123	France OAT	9½	04/25/00	111.3525	8.5300
124	France OAT	6¾	04/25/02	99.9233	6.7600
125	France OAT	7½	04/25/05	101.5000	7.3900
128	France BTAN	7½	03/16/97	102.6100	7.3100
141	UK T-note	5¼	01/21/97	100.3750	5.2300
159	EIB	10	01/24/01	113⅝	8.8000
174	France B.T.A.N.	6	03/16/01	98.2100	6.1100
177	UK T-note	5	01/26/99	98.3750	5.0800
182	Britain	9⅛	02/21/01	110⅝	8.2700
187	UK Tbills	zero	06/13/96	98.9830	4.4900
194	Italy	9¼	03/07/11	107.8750	8.5700
204	France OAT	8½	03/15/02	107.6800	7.8900
213	France OAT	8	04/25/03	106.8233	7.4900
215	France OAT	10	02/26/01	114.3000	8.7500
224	France OAT	8½	05/12/97	103.4900	8.2100
242	UK Tbills	zero	04/11/96	99.7816	3.5300
244	Austria	7¼	03/20/98	104.3750	7.4300

French Franc

Rnk	Name	Cpn	Maturity	Price	Yield
131	France OAT	8½	04/25/03	111.9100	7.6000
139	France BTAN	7¼	08/12/97	103.3500	7.0100
144	France OAT	6¾	10/25/03	101.6000	6.6400
155	France OAT	7¾	10/25/05	107.1300	7.2300
161	France BTAN	7	10/12/00	104.7600	6.6800
185	France BTAN	6½	10/12/96	101.0900	6.4300
206	France OAT	8½	11/25/02	111.8800	7.6000
219	France BTAN	7¾	04/12/00	107.3800	7.2200
236	France OAT	8¼	02/27/04	110.5600	7.4600
248	France OAT	7½	04/25/05	105.5300	7.1100

Italian Lira

Rnk	Name	Cpn	Maturity	Price	Yield
205	Italy	10½	09/01/05	100.7500	10.4200

Japanese Yen

Rnk	Name	Cpn	Maturity	Price	Yield
153	World Bank	4½	06/20/00	109.7500	4.1000
197	World Bank	4½	03/20/03	109.7500	4.1000
223	World Bank	5¼	03/20/02	114⅜	4.5900
230	Exim Bk Japan	2⅝	07/28/05	96.5000	2.9800
234	EIB	6⅛	03/15/00	117	5.6600

Spanish Peseta

Rnk	Name	Cpn	Maturity	Price	Yield
132	Spain	10.10	02/28/01	103.1910	9.7900
154	Spain	7.40	07/30/99	95.8130	7.7200
168	Spain	10.15	01/31/06	101.5490	10.0000
202	Spain	10.00	02/28/05	100.4960	9.9500

Swedish Krona

Rnk	Name	Cpn	Maturity	Price	Yield
171	Sweden	10¼	05/05/00	108.4268	9.4500
181	Sweden	6	02/09/05	83.6449	7.1700
217	Sweden	11	01/21/99	109.0800	10.0800
225	Sweden	13	06/15/01	120.1606	10.8200

U.S. Dollar

Rnk	Name	Cpn	Maturity	Price	Yield
12	Argentina FRN	6 13/16	03/29/05	71.6300	9.5100
16	Brazil Cap S.L.	4	04/15/14	63.3350	6.3200
42	Argentina par L	5	03/31/23	51.9400	9.6300
48	Brazil par Zl	4¼	04/15/24	52.0000	8.1700
50	Brazil L	6 13/16	04/15/06	73.0000	9.3300
56	Venezuela	6 9/16	12/18/07	59.5100	11.0300
65	Brazil 930.0	6⅝	01/01/01	89.7500	7.1000
70	Venezuela par A	6¾	03/31/20	56.6300	11.9200
76	Mexico D	6.547	12/28/19	75.3800	8.6900
78	Chubu Elec Pwr	5¼	04/18/01	97.3750	5.9100
83	Sweden	4½	03/24/99	95.9343	4.6900
88	Mexico par A	6¼	12/31/19	64.0000	9.7700
89	Argentina L	6⅝	03/31/23	63.3800	10.3500
91	Mexico par B	6¼	12/31/19	64.0000	9.7700
94	Brazil S.Zl	6 13/16	04/15/24	64.2500	10.6000
104	Poland	3¾	10/27/14	74.2331	5.0500
106	Argentina	5.32	04/01/01	104.1000	5.1108
114	Ecuador par	3	02/28/25	35.8800	8.3600
120	Poland	6⅞	10/27/24	87.8800	7.8200
121	Bulgaria	6¼	07/28/11	46.2865	13.5000
127	Brazil S.L	6⅞	04/15/12	62.2500	11.0400
133	IADB	zero	03/08/06	96.6250	-
135	Bulgaria	6¼	07/28/24	51.7500	12.0800
143	Bulgaria	2	07/28/12	31.2808	6.3900
148	Argentina	9¼	02/23/01	94.2500	9.8100
156	Mexico A	6.766	12/31/19	75.3800	8.9800
157	Nigeria	6¼	11/15/20	52.3800	11.9300
160	Britain	7¼	12/09/02	104.0000	6.9700
162	Finland	7⅞	07/28/04	107.7500	7.3100
167	Mexico	9¾	02/06/01	98.8750	9.8600
170	Ecuador	6⅛	02/28/25	54.3083	11.1600
180	Ontario	6⅛	06/28/00	99.1250	6.1800
186	Venezuela B	6¾	03/31/20	56.6300	11.9200
188	BOC Group	5⅞	01/29/01	97.3750	6.0300
193	Poland par	2¾	10/27/24	48.9891	5.6100
198	Sweden	5.176	02/08/01	99.5100	5.2000
200	Ecuador	3	02/28/15	42.6671	7.0300
208	Ford Credit	zero	06/20/96	98.6608	5.4300
211	Venezuela	6 13/16	03/18/07	59.1300	11.5200
220	ADB	6¼	10/24/05	97.2500	6.4300
222	British Gas Intl	zero	11/04/21	14¼	7.8900
227	Italy B	zero	01/10/01	73.2500	6.6800
229	Beta Fin	zero	06/17/96	98.7075	5.4200
232	Canada	6⅛	07/21/05	97.7500	6.5200
233	Mexico B	6.766	12/31/19	75.3800	8.9800
235	Mexico C	6.609	12/31/19	75.3800	8.7700
237	Argentina	8¼	12/20/03	84.7500	9.8800
239	Bankers Trust	5.664	03/15/99	99.9000	5.6700
240	Sweden	zero	09/09/96	96.9471	6.8000
241	KFW Intl Fin	8¼	11/30/04	109.5000	7.5300
243	World Bank	6⅛	07/21/05	98.5000	6.4700
245	Fannie Mae	7.40	07/01/04	105.2500	7.0300
249	Bco Com Ext.	7¼	02/02/04	83.6250	8.6700
250	Britain	5⅞	09/24/96	99.9000	5.4400

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New International Bond Issues

Compiled by Paul Floren

Issuer	Amount (millions)	Mat.	Coup. %	Price	Price end week	Terms
Floating Rate Notes						
Australia and New Zealand Banking Group	$100	1997	0.10	99.99	—	Over 3-month Libor. Noncallable. Fees 0.03%. Denominations $100,000. (Merrill Lynch.)
Advanta Credit Card Master Trust II Series 1996-B	$648.75	2004	0.23	100	—	Over 3-month Libor. Noncallable. Fees 0.25%. Issues with $41.25 million note paying 0.1375 over 3-month Libor. (J.P. Morgan.)
Chrysler Financial Corp Premier Auto Trust 1996-1	$645	1998	0.07	100.00	—	Over 1-month Libor. Noncallable. Fees 0.1625%. (Merrill Lynch.)
Household Consumer Loan Trust 1996-1	$638.40	2006	0.22	100	—	Over 1-month Libor. Noncallable. Fees not disclosed. Issued with $136.25 million note paying 0.60 over 1-month Libor. (Lehman Brothers.)
Korea Long-Term Credit Bank	$200	1999	0.30	100.00	—	Over 6-month Libor. Reoffered at 99.97. Noncallable. Fees not disclosed. Denominations $500,000. (Sanwa Intl.)
MBNA Master Credit Card Trust II Series 1996-B	$435	2008	0.26	100	—	Over 1-month Libor. Noncallable. Fees 4½%. (Lehman Brothers.)
Banco Nacional de Comercio Exterior	DM 300	1999	3¼	100.06	—	Over 3-month Libor. Noncallable. Fees 0.80%. (Westdeutsche Landesbank.)
Iceland	DM250	2001	flat	100.00	—	Over 3-month Libor. Noncallable. Fees 0.175%. (Citibank.)
Thames	£400	1996	Libor	100.00	—	Over 3-month Libor. Issues split into four tranches paying between 0.12 and 0.48. Reoffered at 99.95 and 99.91. Fees between 0.05% and 0.165%. (Natwest Markets.)
Compagnie Bancaire	FF 1,000	1998	¼	100.00	—	Over 3-month Libor until 1997, thereafter 5% over 3-month Libor. Noncallable. Fees 1½%. (Crédit Commercial de France.)
Fixed Coupons						
Bank Deutsche Siedlungs und Landesrentenbank	$200	1998	6	101.18	100.28	Noncallable. Fees 1 ⅜%. (Nomura.)
Chrysler Financial Corp Premier Auto Trust 1996-1	$400	1999	6	99.972	—	Monthly. Noncallable. Fees 0.2125%. Issued along with $148.75 million note with paying 6.85 and due in 2000. (Merrill Lynch.)
Deutsche Pfandbrief und Hpothekenbank	$200	1999	6⅛	100.8585	100.38	Reoffered at 99.696. Noncallable. Fees 1 ⅜%. (BNP Capital Markets.)
European Investment Bank	$275	2000	6	101.23	99.85	Reoffered at 99.83. Noncallable. Fees 1 ⅜%. Barclays de Zoete Wedd.)
KFW Intl Finance	$200	1999	6⅛	100.04	100.42	Reoffered at 99.64. Noncallable. Fees 1 ⅜%. (Paribas Capital Markets.)
Indo Rayon Intl	$150	2001	10	99.53	—	Callable in 1999. Fees 1%. (Swiss Bank Corp.)
Landesbank Rheinland-Pfalz	$250	2000	6	101.053	101.42	Reoffered 99.653. Noncallable. Fees 1 ⅜%. (Société Générale Strauss Turnbull.)
Swiss Bank Corp.	$200	1999	6	101.0375	100.25	Reoffered at 99.85. Noncallable. Fees 1 ⅜%. (Swiss Bank Corp.)
Argentina	DM500	2006	11¼	101.095	—	Reoffered 99.47. Noncallable. Fees 3%. (Deutsche Morgan Grenfell.)
Bank Austria	DM200	1999	4½	101.4707	99.75	Reoffered at 99.8582. Noncallable. Fees 1.80%. (Westdeutsche Landesbank.)
Deutsche Finance	DM 250	2000	5½	101.82	—	Noncallable. Fungible with outstanding issue raising total amount to 1.25 billion marks Fees 2%. (Deutsche Morgan Grenfell.)
Deutsche Pfandbrief und Hypothekenbank	DM500	1999	4⅝	101.1525	—	Reoffered at 99.84. Noncallable. Fees 1½%. (HSBC Capital Markets.)
Dresdner Bank	DM100	2001	5¼	100.87	—	Noncallable. Fungible with outstanding issue raising total to 600 million marks. Fees 2%. (Dresdner Bank.)
European Investment Bank	DM300	1999	4¾	101.00	100.65	Reoffered at 99.85. Noncallable. Fees 1 ⅜%. (Westdeutsche Landesbank.)
Oesterreichische Kontrollbank	DM 250	1999	5	101.665	100.35	Reoffered 100.14. Noncallable. Fees 1⅜%. (Swiss Bank Corp.)
Royal Bank of Scotland	£125	perpt	9¼	99.254	—	Callable at par in 2006 and every 5 years thereafter. Fees 0.625%. (Goldman Sachs.)
Abby National Treasury Services	FF 3,000	2006	6¾	100.76	—	Reoffered at 99.11. Noncallable. Fees 2%. (Parisbas Capital Markets.)
BNG	FF 3,000	2006	6¾	101.441	99.25	Reoffered at 99.766. Noncallable. Fees 2% (BNP Capital Markets.)
KFW	FF2,000	2008	6¾	100.81	99.85	Reoffered at 99.16. Noncallable. Fees 2%. (Société Générale.)
Deutsche Finance	ITL 200,000	1998	9¼	100.955	—	Noncallable. Fees 1 ⅜%. (Deutsche Morgan Grenfell.)
Austria	DF 1,500	2003	6¼	101.575	100.25	Reoffered at 100. Noncallable. Fees 1.575%. (ING Barings.)
Akzo Nobel	DF300	2001	5¾	101.025	99.45	Reoffered at 99.45. Noncallable. Fees 1 ⅞%. (ING Barings.)
Rabobank	DF 500	2001	5¾	101.515	100.40	Reoffered at 99.89. Noncallable. Fees 1 ⅞%. (Rabobank.)
Oesterreichische Kontrollbank	C$200	2001	7	100.975	98.95	Reoffered at 99.35. Noncallable. Fees 1 ⅞%. (CIBC Wood Gundy.)
Le Sires Series 13	Y10,000	1999	2.10	100.00	—	Noncallable. Fees 0.225%. Denominations 1 million yen. (Merrill Lynch.)
Equity-Linked						
Nikken Chemicals	$100	2000	3¼	100.00	—	Noncallable. Each $10,000 note with two warrants, exercisable into company's shares at 718 yen per share and at 107.00 yen per dollar. Fees 2¼%. (Daiwa Europe.)
UBE Industries	$400	2000	3¾	100.00	—	Noncallable. Each $10,000 note with two warrants, exercisable into company's shares at 373 yen per share and at 107.00 yen per dollar. Fees 2¼%. (Yamaichi Intl.)
Uniden 30	$137	2000	4¼	100.00	—	Noncallable. Each $10,000 note with two warrants, exercisable into company's shares at an expected 2½% premium. Fees 2½%. Terms to be set March 21. (Nomura Intl.)
Union Bank of Switzerland	$125	2001	2½	100.00	—	Semiannually. Callable at par in 1997. Convertible into Novartis shares at $1,349.53 per share, a 20% premium, and at 1.192 Swiss francs per dollar. Fees not disclosed. Denominations $10,000. (Union Bank of Switzerland.)

Last Week's Markets

Stock Indexes

United States	March 22	March 15	% Ch'ge
DJ Indus.	5,636.64	5,584.97	+0.93
DJ Util.	214.50	211.92	+1.22
DJ Trans.	2,197.67	2,135.29	+2.92
S & P 100	628.37	620.73	+1.23
S & P 500	650.62	641.43	+1.43
S & P Ind	768.57	762.13	+0.85
NYSE Cp	348.77	343.39	+1.57
Japan			
Nikkei 225	20,700.92	20,190.85	+ 2.53
Britain			
FTSE 100	3,707.00	3,644.80	+ 1.71
Canada			
TSE Indus.	4,952.60	4,953.62	—0.02
France			
CAC 40	1,974.35	1,950.12	+ 1.24
Germany			
DAX	2,504.02	2,458.23	+ 1.86
Hong Kong			
Hang Seng	11,026.70	10,557.60	+ 4.44
World			
MSCIP	757.65	745.28	+ 1.66

World Index from Morgan Stanley Capital Intl Perspective.

Money Rates

United States	March 22	March 15
Discount rate	5.00	5.00
Prime rate	8¼	8¼
Federal funds rate	5⁵⁄₁₆	5.00
Japan		
Discount	0.50	0.50
Call money	0.41	0.34
3-month interbank	0.69	0.59
Britain		
Bank base rate	6.00	6.00
Call money	5¾	5⁹⁄₁₆
3-month interbank	6.00	6.00
France		
Intervention rate	3.80	3.80
Call money	4.00	4⅟₁₆
3-month interbank	4¼	4³⁄₁₆
Germany		
Lombard	5.00	5.00
Call money	3.35	3.38
3-month interbank	3.35	3.35

Gold	Mar. 22	Mar. 15	% Ch'ge
London p.m. fix.$	397.70	395.70	+ 0.50

Euromarts

Eurobond Yields

	Mar. 22	Mar. 15	Yr high	Yr low
U.S. $, long term	6.67	6.72	6.73	6.17
U.S. $, mdm term	6.28	6.21	6.28	5.61
U.S. $, short term	5.62	5.42	5.66	5.19
Pounds sterling	7.60	7.64	7.65	6.99
French francs	6.21	6.21	6.38	6.08
Italian lire	9.65	9.60	10.45	9.42
Danish kroner	6.46	6.42	6.51	5.95
Swedish kronor	7.82	7.83	8.55	7.74
ECUs, long term	7.50	7.41	7.50	6.86
ECUs, mdm term	6.54	6.51	6.56	5.89
Can. $	7.35	7.14	7.35	6.56
Aus. $	8.78	8.60	8.78	7.99
N.Z. $	8.14	8.25	8.26	7.04
Yen	2.55	2.57	2.74	2.28

Source: Luxembourg stock exchange.

Weekly Sales

March 21

Primary Market

	Cedel $	Cedel Non$	Euroclear $	Euroclear Non$
Straights	28.5	573.8	767.5	1,302.3
Convert.	—	—	67.8	9.4
FRNs	26.3	199.6	190.0	41.3
ECP	10,793.1	6,811.3	8,615.4	8,805.5
Total	10,847.9	7,584.7	9,640.7	10,158.5

Secondary Market

	Cedel $	Cedel Non$	Euroclear $	Euroclear Non$
Straights	14,335.6	17,995.1	51,018.1	29,454.1
Convert.	578.5	688.2	1,884.9	1,342.6
FRNs	10,328.0	3,581.7	48,273.8	5,301.7
ECP	8,403.0	14,459.4	15,741.2	30,931.1
Total	33,645.1	36,724.4	116,918.0	67,029.5

Source: Euroclear, Cedel Bank.

Libor Rates

March 22

	1-month	3-month	6-month
U.S. $	5⁵⁄₁₆	5⁵⁄₁₆	5⅜
Deutsche mark	3⅜	3⅜	3⅜
Pound sterling	6.00	6⅛	6³⁄₁₆
French franc	4⁵⁄₁₆	4⁵⁄₁₆	4½
ECU	4⁹⁄₁₆	4⁹⁄₁₆	4⁹⁄₁₆
Yen	¾	⅞	¾

Sources: Lloyds Bank, Reuters.

مكتبة الأهرام

Herald International Tribune
BUSINESS / FINANCE
MONDAY, MARCH 25, 1996

CYBERSCAPE

Do Internet Ads Sell? How Can You Judge?

By Richard Covington
Special to the Herald Tribune

PARIS — It is hardly Times Square just yet, but the Internet, once defiantly opposed to any commercialization, is sprouting advertising with a speed and volume unforeseen just six months ago.

The World Wide Web is steadily swelling with interactive, advertiser-sponsored billboards. But no one as yet claims to be able to measure how effective the ads are. The cost per thousand viewers or readers and other traditional response models for print and broadcast media have little validity in this strange new world of cyberspace commercials.

Revenues are growing, but 'no one knows what good return is or what to do with it.'

The Internet is a global network that enables computer users equipped with a modem and a telephone line to exchange messages. The World Wide Web carries the multimedia portion of the Internet, allowing centralized server computers to post text, images and music onto the network. Individual computer users then click onto various elements of a Web site to explore whatever mix of information or entertainment strikes their fancy. Each click is known as a hit.

Before the early months of 1995, Internet advertising was virtually nil, according to Jupiter Communication's latest survey of on-line advertising. But last year, ad revenues jumped to $42.9 million, most of it signed on during the last quarter of the year.

This year, the Jupiter survey predicts that ad revenues will multiply nearly seven times, to around $300 million, and surge to $1.1 billion in 1997. The figures measure only advertising purchased on Web sites provided by on-line services and publications. They do not include the cost of creating self-contained Web sites by the advertisers themselves.

Despite this rapid development, Internet advertising so far presents little threat to traditional broadcast and print media. In the United States alone, for example, television commercials accounted for $32.4 billion of advertiser spending last year, and print advertising stood at $22 billion, according to Jupiter. Only radio, with revenues last year of around $1.9 billion, is remotely vulnerable. According to the survey, on-line advertising will surpass radio revenues by 1998.

See ADS, Page 17

Alitalia Running on Empty

A Bailout Becomes Urgent as Losses Mount

By John Tagliabue
New York Times Service

ROME — Alitalia Airlines needs a bailout this spring or risks not being able to pay salaries, according to Domenico Cempella, the executive appointed last month to save Italy's ailing national carrier.

In discussions with other members of the airline's management, Mr. Cempella said Alitalia's debt totaled the equivalent of $2.2 billion, double the amount one year ago, with almost a third of it in costly short-term obligations.

Alitalia lost $175 million in the most recent quarter, more than in all of 1995. It has already used up the $260 million it earned last year from selling its share in the company that runs Rome's municipal airports, Mr. Cempella said.

He did not say when Istituto per la Ricostruzione Industriale, the state holding company that controls Alitalia, would seek permission from the European Union to provide fresh capital.

In recent years, Air France, Air Portugal, Iberia of Spain and Greece's Olympic Airways have obtained a total of $7.4 billion in subsidies with grudging approval from the European Union, which wants such aid to be halted by 1997, when full deregulation of the Continent's airlines begins.

Time is not on Alitalia's side. IRI, which owns 90 percent of the carrier, evidently fears that after deregulation, Alitalia will be battered by more efficient North European carriers like Lufthansa of Germany and British Airways.

Moreover, in the partial liberalization that has already begun, new low-fare airlines are elbowing into Alitalia's lucrative domestic routes. In recent months, such former charter airlines as Air One, Noman and Meridiana have begun scheduled flights on the heavily trafficked Milan-Rome route at fares 30 percent below Alitalia's.

Although 10 percent of Alitalia's shares trade on the Milan exchange, the idea of raising fresh capital there appears unfeasible.

"With debt at six times equity, it's too high a risk," said Luca Comi, who follows Alitalia at the Milan brokerage Intereuropa.

Given the precedent set by other airlines, few doubt Alitalia will get a bailout. Yet its case is complicated.

For one thing, resistance to government handouts is mounting among Europe's healthier airlines, which are riding a revival of air travel to strong profits. Scandinavia's carrier SAS recently protested that Air France was using at least part of the $3.7 billion subsidy it won last year to finance aggressive low fares.

British Air, which was sold to private investors in 1987 and has since been thriving, has gone to the European Court of Justice to challenge the aid given to Air France. "Obviously subsidies skew their positions," said Hedda Harris, a British Air spokeswoman.

Moreover, Italians go to the polls in April to elect a new Parliament whose principal task will be to bring the relentless growth of government spending under control and accelerate the sell-off of state-owned assets like Alitalia.

In 1994, IRI appointed two executives from private industry, Renato Riverso, the former chairman of the International Business Machines Corp. unit in Europe, and Roberto Schisano, a former manager at Texas Instruments Inc., to straighten out Alitalia, which last turned a profit in 1987.

Alitalia followed the growth of other international airlines in the 1980s by overextending its fleet and travel routes without paying attention to costs.

Service and punctuality were bad and productivity notoriously low. Last year, while pilots at British Airways logged 18 million passenger miles, Alitalia's pilots

See AUSTRALIA, Page 17

Beijing Urges Cuts In Interest Rates To Aid State Firms

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

BEIJING — Pressure is growing in China for a cut in interest rates to boost consumer spending and reduce the financial burden on the country's debt-ridden state enterprises, official media reports said Sunday.

The State Planning Commission has urged the People's Bank of China to reduce interest rates on savings deposits by 1.5 percentage points and on loans by half a percentage point, the China Daily Business Weekly reported.

But Dai Xianglong, chairman of the central bank, has ruled out an interest rate cut for now. He was quoted by Shanghai's Liberation Daily on Saturday as saying that inflation was still too high to consider a reduction.

Xu Hongyuan, an economist with the State Planning Commission, said the disadvantages of high interest rates were becoming more pronounced, particularly for state-run companies, most of which operate at a loss or with only a small profit margin.

He said high interest rates had left companies with a severe shortage of working capital and also had caused a major headache for the operations of China's banks.

China's inflation rate has been falling steadily over the past year, to 14.8 percent in 1995 after hitting a post-1949 high of more than 21 percent in 1994, and has continued to drop this year.

Mr. Dai, quoted in the Liberation Daily, reiterated that it would be possible to consider a cut in interest rates only when inflation fell to around 6.8 percent.

But the paper added that, with retail price inflation currently at 7 percent to 8 percent, "a cut in interest rates before too long is not impossible."

China is putting in place the infrastructure to allow interest rates to fluctuate more according to market demand and less through administrative edict.

The national interbank yuan market, which went into operation in January, allows for free-moving interest rates on short-term Treasury bills within certain limits set by the central bank.

An interest-rate subsidy to compensate investors for inflation has been removed from Treasury bills issued this year and a similar subsidy applied to personal savings accounts is expected to be removed.

"They've done away with the subsidy on the bonds, so it's only a matter of time before they take it away from the bank deposits, too," the foreign analyst said.

China's savings rate, the highest in the world, is set to slow as income growth moderates and new savings instruments such as bonds become available, the China Daily Business Weekly said.

A survey by the central bank survey found that if current high interest rates on deposits remain unchanged, 62 percent of those polled would chose to deposit idle money in banks while fewer than 15 percent would buy securities. Another 22.6 percent said they would increase consumption.

However, if inflation continued to rise, more people said they would buy stocks and more would spend rather than deposit.

Separately, the China Daily reported Sunday that China will need 350 billion yuan ($41.91 billion) in telecommunications equipment and fiber-optic cable over the next five years to achieve its goal of adding 64.3 million telephone lines.

(Reuters, AFP)

Textile Woes Imperil Jobs In Shanghai

Reuters

SHANGHAI — Mergers and bankruptcies in Shanghai's textile industry could put 50,000 workers out of their jobs this year, the China Daily Business Weekly said Sunday.

Last year 67 of the companies under the Shanghai Textile Holding Co. lost a total of 370 million yuan ($44.3 million), and nationwide three out of four state-owned textile plants are losing money, with the losses totaling 2 billion yuan, the newspaper said.

It quoted the company's chairman, Zhu Kuangyu, as saying his holding company would merge money-losing subsidiaries with profitable ones. Six subsidiaries are in bankruptcy proceedings, and Mr. Zhu said more would be allowed to go bankrupt.

The city's silk and cotton textile industries last year posted losses of 180 million yuan, the newspaper said.

Shanghai aims to move many of its textile plants, a pillar industry for 100 years, out of the city and into areas that produce the raw materials for the textiles.

Separately, the China National Textile Council warned textile manufacturers against building new factories to make denim jeans in light of export quotas and industry overcapacity.

China has 200 companies that can produce 1.08 billion meters (1.19 billion yards) of denim, more than the combined annual output of the United States and Europe in the late 1980s, the China Daily Business Weekly said.

EU Ministers Cling to Telcom Offer

Reuters

BRUSSELS — The European Commission faces a hard row Monday when it tries to persuade EU foreign ministers to sweeten their offer on opening Europe's telecommunications market so that other participants in the current round of global talks might better their offers.

Since several governments oppose the tactic, European Union officials predicted the ministers might confirm their present offer at the upcoming talks in Brussels, arguing that it matches the best offers from the EU's major trading partners.

The commission has proposed that the Union expand on its offer to entice new or improved bids from other partners — including Japan and Canada — in World Trade Organization talks on opening telecommunications markets that expire April 30.

But some governments have argued in preliminary discussions that expanding on the present European offer, especially as a negotiating tactic, could cause domestic political problems.

The current EU offer would allow Belgium, France, Greece, Portugal and Spain to maintain their restrictions on foreign ownership of telecommunications companies. Those countries oppose any concession on the restrictions.

The EU should not "open its arms" to foreign competitors before they open their own markets, said Telecommunications Minister Elio Di Rupo of Belgium.

He said Belgium would insist on keeping its 49.9 percent limit on non-EU ownership of telecommunications companies and its restrictions on the number of operators in specific sectors.

Mr. Di Rupo specifically complained about remaining restrictions in the U.S. offer in such areas as satellite communications and submarine cable licenses.

Mercosur Urged to Better Infrastructure

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

BUENOS AIRES — South America's Mercosur trade bloc needs to expand its physical infrastructure massively if it is to meet its growth potential, according to the president of the Inter-American Development Bank, Enrique Iglesias.

Mercosur has linked Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay in a customs union since January 1995. Chile is set to sign a free-trade agreement with the bloc June 25.

"The new reality of Mercosur imposes new targets," Mr. Iglesias said, "because we are talking of trade that has grown two and a half times in the past few years."

"That new reality has to be accompanied by a very vigorous process of investment in infrastructure," he added.

"If we look at all the investments that could take place in the fields of transport, energy and communications, very broad estimates lead us to think that we could put together between $16 to 20 billion into these sectors alone over the next 10 years," Mr. Iglesias said on the eve of the bank's annual meeting.

But another voice said Argentina faced trouble reversing the economic woes brought on by the devaluation of the Mexican peso in 1995.

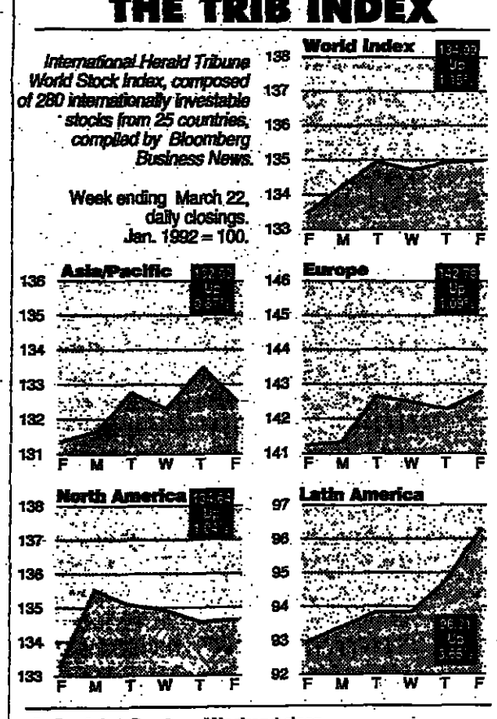
Paul Volcker, the former chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, was quoted by the daily Clarín Saturday as saying the country was stymied by high interest rates and the state of Argentina's financial system. *(Reuters, Knight-Ridder)*



THE TRIB INDEX

International Herald Tribune World Stock Index, composed of 280 internationally investable stocks from 25 countries, compiled by Bloomberg Business News.

Week ending March 22, daily closings. Jan. 1992 = 100.



Industrial Sectors/Weekend close

	3/22/96 close	3/15/96 close	% change		3/22/96 close	3/15/96 close	% change
Energy	138.43	136.15	+1.67	Capital Goods	142.68	141.82	+0.61
Utilities	127.37	124.61	+2.21	Raw Materials	159.91	158.19	+2.38
Finance	123.82	123.45	+0.30	Consumer Goods	142.38	140.37	+1.43
Services	122.94	121.24	+1.40	Miscellaneous	140.08	136.77	+2.42

The index tracks U.S. dollar values of stocks in: Tokyo, New York, London, and Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Italy, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Venezuela. For Tokyo, New York and London, the index is composed of the 20 top issues in terms of market capitalization, otherwise the ten top stocks are tracked.

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CURRENCY RATES

March 22

Cross Rates

	$	£	DM	FF	Lira	Dfl	BF	SF	Yen	C$	Peseta
Amsterdam	1.6554	1.5365	1.1592	0.3282	0.1057*	—	5.446*	1.3845	1.50*	1.2725	1.3315*
Brussels	30.42	28.66	21.555	6.093	1.9428*	18.3655	—	25.4875	0.2844	23.33	24.47*
Frankfurt	1.4097	2.37	—	0.2915	0.9348*	0.8935	4.8655*	1.2368	1.2824*	1.0856	1.1897*
London (s)	1.5338	—	2.2835	7.7459	2.3965.51	2.5332	46.598	1.8296	163.78	2.0982	190.25
Madrid	194.335	189.23	84.867	24.485	7.937	75.309	4.8903	103.942	116.212*	91.289	—
Milan	1,655.75	2,492.85	1,858.78	208.20	—	946.80	51.621	1,307.75	14.828	1,148.66	12.592
New York (b)	—	1.53654	1.0783	5.065	1,561.00	1.4538	28.34	1.3925	108.975	1.2684	124.715
Paris	5.836	7.2865	3.4227	—	0.329*	3.0644	0.167	4.2435	4.2446*	3.7269	4.0852*
Tokyo	184.55	164.25	77.26	21.09	8.684	66.57	3.5749	89.29	—	78.58	0.8591
Toronto	1.3825	2.0835	0.9724	0.269	0.0873*	0.8249	0.1497*	1.1416	1.2725*	—	1.098*
Zurich	1.1965	1.8025	0.8089	0.2268	0.0764*	0.7229	0.0353*	—	1.1167*	0.877	0.9622*
1 ECU	1.2383	0.8306	1.1806	5.4988	2,385.68	21.154	38.9709	1.5315	134.979	1.2438	139.28
1 SDR	1.4697	0.9859	2.1391	7.4066	2,295.84	2.4755	44.3506	1.3483	156.349	1.2987	161.405

Closings in Amsterdam, London, Milan, New York, Paris, Toronto and Zurich. Rates in other centers.
*c: To buy one pound; b: To buy one dollar; *Units of 100; N.Q.: not quoted; N.A.: not available.*

Other Dollar Values

Currency	Per $	Currency	Per $	Currency	Per $	Currency	Per $
Argent. peso	1.00	Greek drac.	243.71	Mex. peso	7.535	S. Afr. rand	3.9710
Australian $	1.2888	Hong Kong $	7.7311	N. Zealand $	1.4582	S. Kor. won	783.90
Austrian sch.	10.402	Hung. forint	146.31	Norw. krone	6.4235	Swed. krona	6.6315
Brazil real	0.9878	Indian rupee	34.57	Phil. peso	26.20	Taiwan $	27.20
Chinese yuan	8.352	Indo. rupiah	2334.30	Polish zloty	2.58	Thai baht	25.36
Czech koruna	27.25	Irish £	0.6334	Port. escudo	152.82	Turkish lira	69400.
Danish krone	5.7154	Israeli shek.	3.0955	Russ ruble	4844.00	UAE dirham	3.671
Egypt. pound	3.3939	Kuw dinar	0.299	Saudi riyal	3.7500	Venez. bolfv.	505.00
Fin. markka	4.6852	Malay. ring.	2.544	Sing. $	1.4098		

Forward Rates

Currency	30-day	60-day	90-day	Currency	30-day	60-day	90-day
Pound Sterling	1.5330	1.5321	1.5314	Japanese yen	106.59	106.14	105.74
Canadian dollar	1.3623	1.3486	1.3358	Swiss franc	1.2933	1.1897	1.1862
Deutsche mark	1.4769	1.4743	1.4719				

Sources: ING Bank (Amsterdam); Indosuez Bank (Brussels); Banca Commerciale Italiana (Milan); Agence France-Presse (Paris); Bank of Tokyo (Tokyo); Royal Bank of Canada (Toronto); IMF (SDR). Other data from Reuters and AP.

A Penny-Stock Cinderella Story

Bre-X Parlays Huge Gold Strike Into Fortune for Investors

By Clyde H. Farnsworth
New York Times Service

TORONTO — Three years ago Bre-X Minerals Ltd., then operating out of the basement of its president, David Walsh, paid 80,000 Canadian dollars ($58,700) for mineral rights to a large plot of land near Busang in northeast Borneo.

SMALL BUSINESS

What has happened since has become a Cinderella story of investing. On its 475,000 acres (190,000 hectares) underneath the hilly rain forest, Bre-X made one of the largest gold strikes of this century, sending its penny stock to 148 dollars a share and Bre-X from the basement to an office building in Calgary, Alberta.

In the process, it has enriched everyone from Mr. Walsh to workers at the local General Motors Corp. plant.

Mr. Walsh, 50, a former stockbroker who named Bre-X after his younger son, Brett, adding an X for exploration, had spent much of 1992 and 1993 in personal bankruptcy. His holdings, including options, are now worth more than $250 million.

Bre-X, traded on the tiny Alberta Stock Exchange, expects to be listed in a few weeks on both the Toronto Stock Exchange and the Nasdaq stock market and has proposed a 10-for-1 stock split. But the stock has risen so quickly that even some of its fans have taken a step back. Many mutual funds that were early buyers still hold hundreds of thousands of shares, but few say they are buying more at current prices.

Bre-X eventually expects to produce 1.8 million to 2 million ounces (50.4 million to 56 million grams) of gold a year, making it one of the world's largest producers. Estimates of the size of the deposit have ranged as high as 100 million ounces.

"It's a monster, that's all I can say," said John Felderhof, senior vice president of Bre-X and the geologist who made the find. A company spokesman estimated "30 million, plus, plus, plus." The world's largest deposit, the Grasberg copper and gold mine of Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold Inc. in Indonesia, holds 51 million ounces.

Bre-X said it was looking for a production partner. Many larger companies have approached it, but Steve McAnulty, vice president in charge of investor and corporate relations, said no decision would be made until midsummer.

Bre-X owns a 90 percent stake in the mine. The other 10 percent is held by an Indonesian partner, Askatindo Karya Mineral. Another mining company, Minorca Resources of Toronto, has worked out a complex deal with the partner that effectively gives it a 4.2 percent stake for 12.5 million dollars plus 3 million Minorca shares, which closed Friday on the Montreal Stock Exchange at 4.65 dollars each.

The deal caught Bre-X by surprise. "It's a nuisance to us, but of minimal relevance," Mr. McAnulty said.

Mr. Walsh and other senior managers own 10 percent of the 21.3 million shares outstanding. Insider-trading reports show that Mr. Walsh sold 318,000 shares over 10 weeks early this winter at an average price of 55.20 dollars. His wife, Jeannette, a Bre-X corporate secretary, sold 70,000 shares at an average price of 64.79 dollars.

Another 24 percent of Bre-X is held by Bresea Resources Ltd., also founded by Mr. Walsh and named after both of his sons, Brett and Sean. Institutions own 25 percent to 40 percent, and the public holds the rest.

Doug Imrie, 47, who works at the General Motors plant in Oshawa, Ontario, is sending a son to college on some of the profits from his Bre-X shares. "This isn't going to make me retire tomorrow," Mr. Imrie said, "but it gives me a very big lift economically."

Yet some mining analysts voice caution. "There's no question this is a real discovery," said Paul Esquivel, research consultant for McDermid St. Lawrence Chisolm Ltd., "but the market is suggesting investors are getting carried away."



OMEGA

SELECTED BY JAMES BOND

Omega Seamaster Professional.
Self-winding chronometer.
Swiss made since 1848.

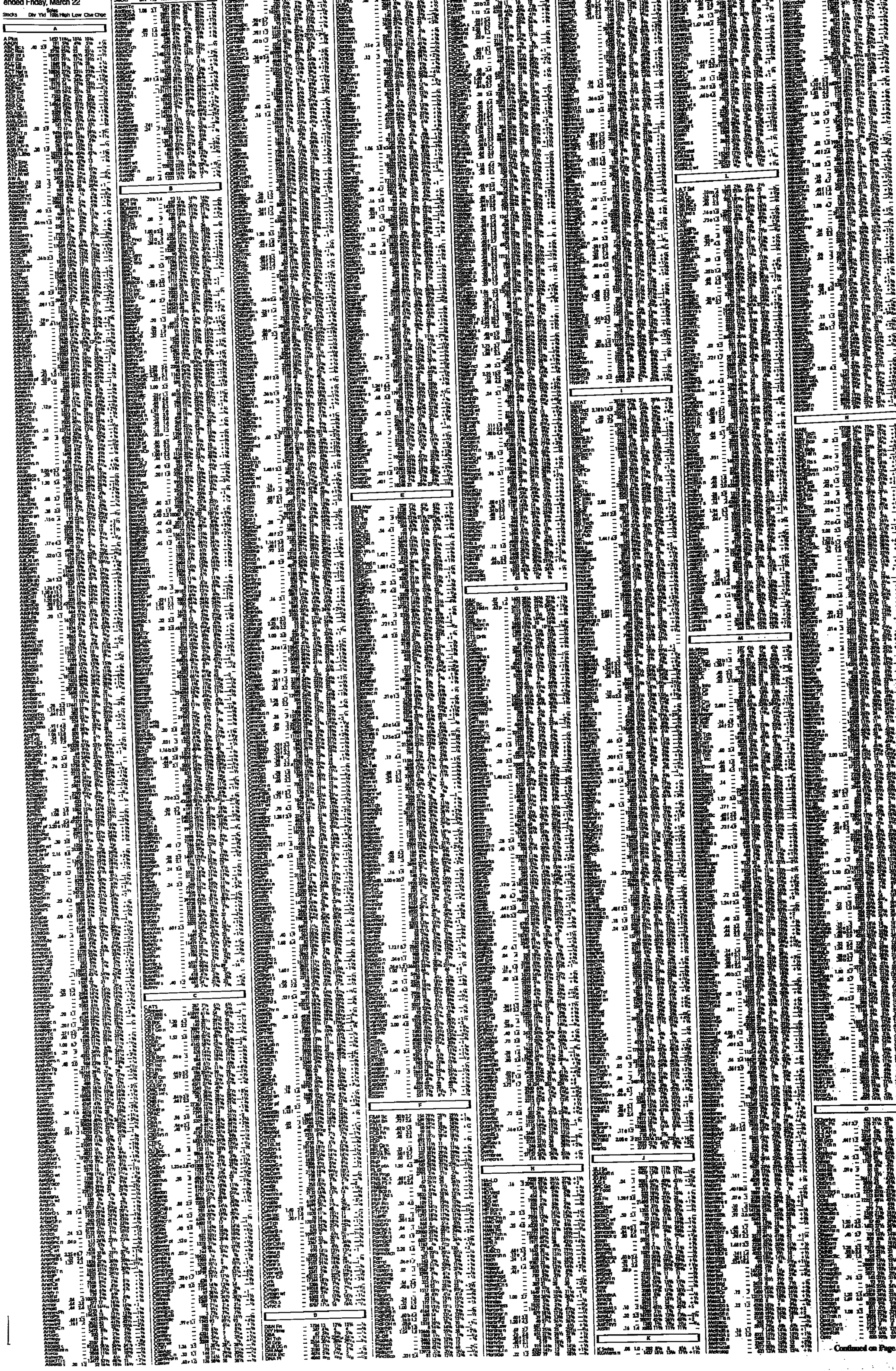


James Bond is back in GoldenEye. On the wrist of the new agent 007 is an Omega Seamaster Professional diver watch - not just a precious timepiece, but also a valuable life saver...

Ω
OMEGA
The sign of excellence

NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

Consolidated trading for week ended Friday, March 22



Continued on Page 19

SHORT COVER

500,000 German Jobs Seen at Risk

COLOGNE (Reuters) — More than half a million employees in Germany could lose their jobs in 1996, according to a survey of 27 employers' associations released Sunday.

The construction sector faced the heaviest losses, with a total of 110,000 jobs in jeopardy, according to the survey, published in Impulse magazine. Another 80,000 jobs were threatened in the post and telecommunications sector, along with 50,000 jobs among skilled craft workers.

Lackluster consumer spending is expected to cost 40,000 retailing jobs, the survey found, and sectors that traditionally have been viewed as secure — automobiles, banking, public service and insurance — were each expected to cut their work force by between 25,000 and 30,000.

New $100 Bill to Hit the Streets

WASHINGTON (AP) — A new 100-dollar bill with a bigger, off-center picture of Benjamin Franklin and several innovations to thwart counterfeiters goes into circulation around the world Monday.

The bills, expected to be widely available next month, represent the first significant change in the appearance of U.S. currency since 1929. Redesign of other denominations is to follow, the Treasury said.

Machine-Tool Orders Drop 10.2%

McLEAN, Virginia (Bloomberg) — Orders for U.S. industrial tools fell last month, the Association for Manufacturing Technology said Sunday, suggesting that U.S. businesses are investing less in plant and equipment.

Total orders declined 10.2 percent to $414.7 million in February, though they were still 9.3 percent higher than a year ago. January orders totaled $461.60 million.

Economists follow data on machine tools, which are used to shape and assemble metals in products ranging from diesel engines to dishwashers, in order to gauge industrial output, consumer demand, and business investment.

Egypt Vows to Protect Investment

CAIRO (AP) — Egypt will maintain tight security to encourage foreign investment and tourism, Interior Minister Hussain Muhammad el-Alfy said Sunday.

The Interior Ministry has led the battle against Muslim extremists who have waged a campaign of violence since 1992 to replace Egypt's secular government with strict Islamic rule. In recent months, tourism has rebounded, and Cairo also has launched a fresh effort to attract foreign investors to help modernize the economy and privatize state-owned industries.

Orders Rise for Chip Equipment

MOUNTAIN VIEW, California (Bloomberg) — A semiconductor equipment industry gauge for measuring business growth rose for the third consecutive month in February as new orders for equipment used to make computer chips increased.

Semiconductor Equipment & Material International, a trade group, said its book-to-bill ratio rose to 1.33 in February from a revised 1.26 in January. That means that for every $100 of orders shipped, equipment makers received $133 in new orders.

The study is different from one put out monthly by the Semiconductor Industry Association, which measures growth in computer chip sales. That ratio fell for a fifth month in February, to 0.90.

For the Record

• **Inchcape PLC** is expected to announce the departure of its chief executive, Charles Mackay, when it unveils its 1995 results on Monday, according to newspaper reports. Analysts predict the company will report sharply lower pretax profits.

• **Gulf Air** will delay for two to three years the purchase of four Airbus Industrie A320 planes to reduce losses. *Reuters*

GM and Bass: Web Case Studies

Special to the Herald Tribune

Prospective Internet advertisers first sat up and took notice last November, when General Motors Corp. signed on for advertising over a broad gamut of magazine Web sites owned by the Hachette Filipacchi publishing group, including Car and Driver and Elle.

The GM deal, part of a $20 million advertising package for print and new media, signaled that Web advertising had joined the mainstream, having broken out of the rarefied realm of software producers and technology companies.

The automaker's Internet initiative is part of a broader strategy of moving into nontraditional modes of advertising where the consumers invite the message rather than having it directed at them, according to Dean Rotondo, a communications manager for GM's North American operations. "The Web gives us more of a pull mechanism to attract customers, instead of a traditional push mechanism," he said.

Apart from the deal with the new media publisher, GM recently launched its own sites in North America and in Europe, where browsers can view various models from different angles, equip them with assorted options and play trivia games.

Based on a mere two months on the Web, GM's European division is planning to enlarge on-line advertising for its Opel line of cars beyond its original focus in Germany, Switzerland and Austria to encompass all of Europe.

"We see the site as a tool to improve the umbrella brand image rather than as a sales tool, and also as an effective means of targeting young buyers," said Frank-Thomas Dietz, an executive at GM Europe's headquarters in Zurich.

Yet despite Opel's overall satisfaction with its Web site, Mr. Dietz added that it was "crystal clear" that print and broadcast media support was needed to inform people of the site's existence and address (http:// www. opel. com.). He declined to give a figure on the cost of establishing and maintaining the site.

Other advertisers have been similarly enthusiastic about their Internet exposure.

Bass Brewers Ltd. spent £150,000 ($230,000) creating a Web site to promote the Carling Net football league matchesand plastering the address (http: // www. fa-carling. com.) on beer cans, posters in pubs and television commercials.

Updated ten times a day, the site has received an average of 130,000 hits daily since its launch in December, according to Jonathan Nye, head of sponsorship for the company.

Acquiring a Web site, he said, was vital "to open up another area of communications to people who might not see our message over other media."

— RICHARD COVINGTON

ADS: *A Growing Internet Presence, but How Effective Are They?*

Continued from Page 15

"Internet advertising is so far only a drop in the ocean and it will take a long time before it becomes a serious element in the marketplace," noted Alan Newman, principal media consultant for the London office of accountants and consultants KPMG. "The business is very much still in an experimental stage."

Paradoxically, Web advertising can be tracked more precisely than either print or broadcast advertising. Traditional ratings measure the number of viewers watching a particular television program or readers buying a magazine, for instance, but give no guarantees that the intended audience actually watched or read the advertisers' message. By contrast, with commercial Web sites, advertisers can track each hit and its exact duration.

But piecing together a useful interpretation of the masses of data is only guesswork at this stage.

"So far, no marketing tool has been devised to gauge success," said Hans-Werner Klein, managing director for McCann-Erickson Deutschland GmbH, the German branch of the international advertising agency that has conceived Web sites for the European division of General Motors Corp. and others. Mr. Klein was speaking earlier this month at an international conference and market devoted to multimedia.

"If browsers interact with your Web site, presumably these are hotter leads," Mr. Newman said. "Even so, no one knows what an appropriate return is or what to do with it. Nobody has a clue whether 45,000 hits a week represents a good response or a poor one."

Internet address: CyberScape@ihtlib.demon.co.uk.

The Week Ahead: World Economic Calendar, March 25-29

A schedule of this week's economic and financial events, compiled for the International Herald Tribune by Bloomberg Business News.

	Asia-Pacific	Europe	Americas
Expected This Week	**Tokyo:** U.S.-Japan weekair-cargo talks resume. **Taipei:** 1996 Taipei International Cycle Show at the Taipei World Trade Center Exhibition Hall. Through March 27.	**Brussels:** EU foreign ministers meet amid concern about British beef and ahead of the April 30 deadline for an accord on telecom liberalization at the World Trade Organization. March 25 and 26. **Madrid:** Bank of Spain reports on current account for January.	**Buenos Aires:** Inter-American Development Bank and the Inter-American Investment Corp. hold annual meeting of their boards of governors. Through March 27.
Monday March 25	**Tokyo:** Management and Coordination Agency releases household spending for January.	**Copenhagen:** February wholesale prices. **Rome:** January industrial production. **Madrid:** Argentaria SA sets final share price for the sale of 25 percent of the bank.	**Davis, California:** Calgene Inc. shareholders vote on proposal to sell 49.9 percent stake to Monsanto Co. **New York:** Federal Reserve begins shipping new $100 bills to financial institutions.
Tuesday March 26	**Tokyo:** Economic Planning Agency releases diffusion index for January.	**Copenhagen:** Fourth-quarter 1995 industrial production. **London:** Fourth-quarter gross domestic product and current account. **Ville de Laval, France:** Franco-German Council meeting with finance ministers and central bankers.	**Mexico City:** Central bank announces foreign reserve levels and results of government securities auction. **Ottawa:** January employment, earnings and hours report.
Wednesday March 27	**Kuala Lumpur:** Bank Negara Malaysia, the central bank, releases its 1995 annual report. **Taipei:** The Council for Economic Planning and Development will release leading, coincident and color indicators for February.	**Eindhoven, Holland:** Philips Electronics NV holds a day-long press meeting to talk about semiconductors. **Earnings expected:** Caradon, Kingfisher, Linde, Tryg-Baltica, VEBA.	**Washington:** February durable orders. **São Paulo:** Institute of Economic Research releases rolling 30-day inflation figures. **Mexico City:** Average interbank interest rate.
Thursday March 28	**Sydney:** Reserve Bank of Australia Governor Bernie Fraser speaks to business economists. **Annual meetings:** Golden Frontier Bhd., Malaysian Tobacco Co., RFM Corp., Utusan Melayu (Malaysia) Bhd.	**Frankfurt:** Bundesbank policy-setting council meets. **Earnings expected:** Deutsche Bank, ING, Nestle, Volkswagen.	**Caracas:** Corimon SACA shareholders vote on sale of most overseas assets and refinancing of debt. **Washington:** Initial weekly state unemployment compensation insurance claims.
Friday March 29	**Manila:** National Power Corp. opens bids for the Masinloc-Labrador 230-kilovolt transmission line project. **Tokyo:** February unemployment data.	**Copenhagen:** Fourth-quarter gross domestic product. **Paris:** Industrial production and merchandise trade balance for January; February unemployment. **Rome:** January unemployment.	**Buenos Aires:** February industrial production estimate. **Ottawa:** January gross domestic product. **Washington:** February new-home sales.

Higher Prices Upset Dogma in the Market

By Floyd Norris
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Fifteen years ago, when signs of slackening inflation began to appear, most investors could not believe it, and they kept buying commodities and avoiding bonds, sure that any pause was temporary.

Those who bought stocks and bonds got rich. Those who kept looking for inflation lost money.

Now, the opposite set of beliefs has been well inculcated in investors. Sure, there can be market hiccups, but the secular trend is against rising prices of real things and for rising prices of stocks and bonds.

Oil prices may leap for a brief time because of a temporary event. But no one should be so foolish as to bet that the prices will not come back down again, the thinking goes, and anyone dumb enough to keep oil on hand as inventory is tying up capital in an asset that is all but certain to lose value.

So investors ignore short-term market moves, confident that the longer-term trend must still be in place. Six months ago, the futures market thought the correct price for a barrel of oil to be delivered in April was just under $17.

When that contract finished trading last week, it went off the board at $23, or $6 higher. But over the same six months, the market's forecast of oil prices for late 1997 and early 1998 has barely budged, still hanging around $17.50.

The conventional wisdom is that prices have risen for temporary reasons. Maybe inventories happen to be low at a time of bad weather. There is a firm expectation that oil exporters will again produce more than the market can absorb. One of these days Iraq will cut a deal with the United Nations to allow it to resume exports.

But perhaps it is time to look at demand.

"We actually seem to be heading to a period of less efficiency," said Steve Strongin, director of commodities research at Goldman, Sachs & Co., noting that American car buyers seem less concerned with fuel economy than before and that the developing world seems to be confounding the forecasts that it will grow more efficient as its economies expand.

Other signs support such an outlook. Bond prices have suffered this year, while economically sensitive stocks have done well.

But the slow-growth consensus remains intact, and neither inflation nor a climb in interest rates can scare investors. When Walt Disney Co. sold bonds last week, the demand was overwhelming.

Yet while the consensus has remained strong, it has been possible to make a lot of money betting against it.

Mr. Strongin notes that over the last year, a strategy of buying the current oil contract, then selling it at expiration and buying the next one, would have produced a return of around 40 percent, since current prices kept rising above what the market expected.

By no means do all signs point to rising commodity prices, or to strong economies around the world. But when the signs are mixed, it is often a good idea to bet on the unexpected, rather than to assume the majority is right.

ALITALIA: *Losses Mounting*

Continued from Page 15

flew half that amount. On intercontinental routes, the Italian airline racked up losses with big Boeing 747s when competitors were flying more efficient jetliners like Boeing's 767 or new 777.

When Mr. Riverso sought to lease 767s from other carriers, Alitalia's pilots struck. Last year, the airline faced 184 hours of strikes.

To offset losses on intercontinental routes, Alitalia traditionally milked cash cows like the Milan-Rome run. But the arrival of the new low-fare airlines ended that.

Paolo Rubino, Air One's commercial director, said Air One expected to gain a 30 percent share of the Milan-Rome traffic this year. Although it has only flown since November with its five Boeing 737s, Air One expects $2.5 million to $3 million in pretax profit in 1996.

The remedy prescribed by Mr. Riverso and Mr. Schisano resembled that applied elsewhere in the industry: improve productivity by cutting jobs and routes and then expand profitable activities.

But last November, after a controversy over concessions reputedly made secretly to pilots, Mr. Schisano was fired, and in March, Mr. Riverso quit amid bitter recriminations over IRI's corporate governance. But mostly, IRI's withdrawal of support was due to jobs and politics.

"There are 18,000 people at Alitalia, and elections are soon," said General Manager Giulio La Starza of Noman.

Mr. Cempella, a former Alitalia executive who left the airline temporarily to run the Roman airport company, has not said how he would resolve Alitalia's problems but has asked for two months of labor peace to work out a plan.

But as a condition for fresh capital, the European Commission will almost certainly mandate measures like job cuts and reductions in the number of Alitalia's aircraft and routes.

Rivals Hit Norway Over Salmon Glut

Reuters

BERGEN, Norway — Below the cool, dark waters of a Norwegian fjord, more than half a million salmon are being fattened, ready for slaughter.

Most of the fish at Hydro Seafood's Mowi farm near the western coastal city of Bergen are destined for export. But there is too much salmon on the world market, and the Norwegians, who pioneered salmon farming two decades ago, are accused of causing the glut.

Scottish and Irish competitors say that Norway, the world's biggest producer, is flooding the market and causing depressed prices.

Last year, the European Union fixed a minimum price on farmed salmon but stopped short of imposing anti-dumping measures on Oslo. Norway reciprocated by ordering a halt to feeding for six weeks until mid-January and has since imposed quotas on salmon feed.

The measures, which reduce growth rate, cut production by 45,000 tons.

Last year Norway produced nearly 300,000 tons, 85 percent of which were exported, mainly to Europe and Japan. Exports were worth 6.8 billion kroner ($1.06 billion). After growing dramatically for years, volume is expected to be the same in 1996 because of self-imposed restrictions.

At Hydro Seafood's Mowi farm, one of several in the Bergen region, the salmon war between the EU and nonmember Norway has not passed unnoticed.

"We produced 6,000 tons last year, but it will only be 5,000 tons this year because of the feed restrictions," Kristine Thorsen, production manager, said.

The young salmon, or smolt, are spawned in freshwater ponds and inoculated against various diseases before being released into cages in the fjords.

Environmentalists say hundreds of thousands of runaway farmed salmon are ruining the genetic code of wild Atlantic salmon, arguably more robust than their farmed cousins.

Escaped salmon follow the instinct of the wild species to spawn in rivers. About 20 percent of salmon in Norwegian rivers are bred by farmed fish, according to environmentalists.

"I don't think this is a problem," said Knut-Erik Gulbrandsen, quality manager at the Mowi farm. "Salmon farming has only been around for about 20 years so the farmed product has not had time to depart genetically from the wild variant."

Atle Eide, managing director of Hydro Seafood, a subsidiary of industrial giant Norsk Hydro AS, said: "The focus has been on dumping and overproduction. But we are really talking about a business that is good, ethically correct, healthy and unlimited."

"With our coastal geography I think we can triple or quadruple our production in the next 10 to 15 years. The big uncertainty is the market," Mr. Gulbrandsen said.

Salmon is emerging as a staple of the 1990s the way mass-produced chicken became widely available in the 1970s. It takes 1.1 kilogram (2.4 pounds) of feed for a salmon to produce a kilogram of meat. A chicken needs 2.5 kilograms of feed to produce the same, says Mr. Gulbrandsen, who monitors feeding with underwater cameras.

The 560,000 salmon at the Mowi farm take 20 months to produce 2,000 tons. That works out to 8 million meals.

Hydro Seafood, whose annual production of nearly 50,000 tons makes it the world's leading salmon farmer, exports mainly raw salmon. One reason is export duties imposed by the EU. The tariff on unprocessed salmon is 2 percent, but it is 13 percent on the smoked product.

Mr. Eide said efficiency was vital in a competitive market that is now seeing Chile emerge as a major challenger to the European producers.

"By putting restrictions on Norway, the EU only replaces Norwegian salmon with Chilean salmon, and the Scottish salmon farmers will be equally badly off," he said.

BusinessWeek

This week's topics:

- The Battle For Russia's Wealth
- The Philippines, A High-Tech Haven
- Business And Voters Are Divided On European Unity
- Asia Looks To The U.S. For Security Again
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ITALY	LIRE	510,000	50	155,000
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NETHERLANDS	FL.	790	42	240
NORWAY	N. KR.	3,500	40	1,050
PORTUGAL	ESC.	51,000	39	15,500
SPAIN	PTAS.	55,000	33	16,500
SWEDEN	S. KR.	3,500	40	1,000
SWITZERLAND	S. FR.	610	48	185
REST OF EUROPE ex CEI	$ US	485		145
CEI	$ US	750		225
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NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

Consolidated trading for week ended Friday, March 22

(Continued)



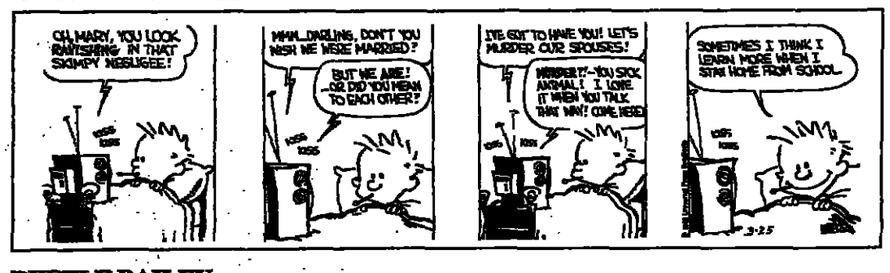
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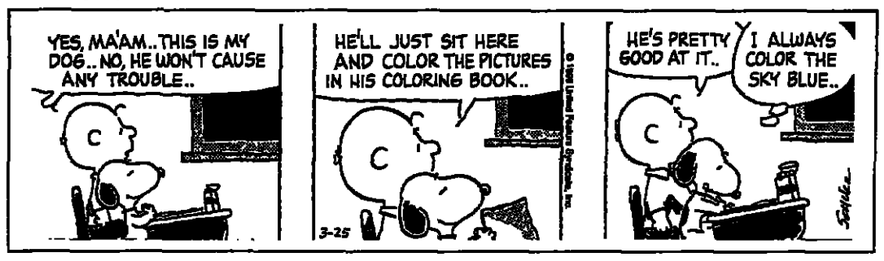
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THE FAR SIDE



"Mr. Bailey? There's a gentleman here who claims an ancestor of yours once defiled his crypt, and now you're the last remaining Bailey and ... oh, something about a curse. Should I send him in?"

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

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LINAF

YESURT

THORCC



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: AN _____

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: MOLDY LEAFY NOBODY FAMILY
Answer: You might call an overweight broker this — A "MIDDLE" MAN

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THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

SPORTS



Gianni Foggia/The Associated Press

WHEN IN ROME — Fans watching the Rome Marathon on Sunday. Moges Taye won the men's race and fellow Ethiopian Fatuma Roba led the women.

Newcastle Slips and Cantona Pounces

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

Eric Cantona scored another vital goal Sunday as Manchester United overcame Tottenham, 1-0, at home to move three points clear of Newcastle in the English championship chase.

The Frenchman rapped a carefully-aimed left-foot shot into the Totten

SOCCER ROUNDUP

ham goal from the edge of the penalty area in the 51st minute.

It was Cantona's 15th goal of the season, which began for him on Oct. 1 after his eight-month ban and his fifth goal in the last five matches.

Newcastle, leaders for much of the season, lost top spot in the premier league on goal difference when they lost, 2-0, at Arsenal on Saturday.

But Newcastle has two games in hand and eight left. United has six to play and their run-in looks much less taxing.

Third-placed Liverpool, the only other team in the title race, lost 1-0 at Nottingham Forest.

At Arsenal, young reserve center-back Scott Marshall, making only his eighth first-team appearance, scored his first goal for Arsenal with a powerful third minute header.

Ian Wright scored the second in the 17th minute after Newcastle defender Warren Barton lost possession in his own half.

In the League Cup final, played Sunday at Wembley, north London, Aston Villa beat Leeds United. Less than a year after avoiding relegation from the premier league by one point, Aston, rebuilt by manager Brian Little, dominated the game.

It took the lead with a thundering 25-meter left foot drive from Serbian Savo Milosevic. Ian Taylor put the Birmingham team 2-0 ahead with a 55th minute volley and Dwight Yorke added a third two minutes from the end.

The victory guarantees Villa a place in next season's UEFA Cup. The club is still in the FA Cup and plays Liverpool in the semifinal at Old Trafford on March 31.

Leeds never looked like winning and apart from a brief spell at the start of the second half were outplayed by Villa who deservedly lifted the cup for the fifth time, equaling Liverpool's record.

SPAIN Atletico Madrid allowed its pursuers a little hope Sunday when it could only manage a tie at home to Real Zaragoza.

Fernando Morientes put the visitors ahead after 31 minutes, but Milinko Pantic equalized with a penalty.

Barcelona closed to within six points of the leaders with a 3-1 victory at Salamanca. Guillermo Amor gave the visitors fourth-minute lead, Medina leveled after 11 minutes, but two more first-half goals ensiured victory for Barcelona.

Third-place Valencia also won on the road, 4-0 in Santiago over Compostela.

NETHERLANDS Ajax Amsterdam moved closer to the Dutch title Sunday by beating third-placed Feyenoord Rotterdam, 2-0.

PSV Eindhoven lost 1-0 at Groningen to fall five points behind Ajax.

Ajax broke through in the 29th minute when Jari Litmanen scored. Nine minutes into the second half a cross from Litmanen was tipped away by goalkeeper Ed de Goey, but the ball fell to Patrick Kluivert who scored.

PSV Eindhoven was missing six key players through injury including strike pair Ronaldo and Luc Nilis, and filled its side with inexperienced youngsters. Groningen sealed victory through a Jan Veenhof header 15 minutes from time.

GERMANY German champions Borussia Dortmund warmed up for next week's game against second-place Bayern Munich with a 6-0 victory over Eintracht Frankfurt on Saturday.

Bayern, which entertains Dortmund in a week's time, remained one point behind with a solid 2-1 victory at Bayer Leverkusen. Bayern have played one game more.

Injury-hit Dortmund's victory was some compensation for their European Cup quarter-final defeat by Ajax Amsterdam in midweek.

International striker Karlheinz Riedle set them on the way with two goals before halftime.

Michael Zorc, Steffen Freund, Joerg Heinrich and Stephane Chapuisat were on target after the break.

Freiburg, the team with the best record since the league restarted after winter break, maintained its charge for a UEFA Cup place with a 2-0 victory against Cologne, which finished the match with nine players after Ralf Hauptmann and Sunday Oliseh were sent off.

Bayern attacked from the kick-off at Leverkusen. Christian Nerlinger seized on a blunder from Karsten Ramelow to give Bayern the lead in the 40th minute but Leverkusen's Brazilian midfielder Paulo Sergio equalised immediately after the interval after latching on to a dream pass from Claudio Reyna.

Veteran international Lothar Matthäus scored what turned out to be the winner for Bayern nine minutes after the break with a low drive from the edge of the penalty area.

Kaiserslautern coach Friedel Rausch quit after his a 0-0 draw against Werder Bremen which left them one from bottom of the table.

Rausch, 56, had coached the 1991 champion since 1993, helping it to the runner-up spot in his first year and fourth place last season.

FRANCE Bordeaux followed Tuesday's stunning 3-0 victory over AC Milan in the UEFA Cup with a 4-3 loss to Rennes in the French league on Saturday.

The result left Bordeaux, which has picked up only three away points all season, still in danger of relegation.

Dutch midfielder Richard Witschge gave the Girondins an early lead but Patrice Carteron and Sylvain Wiltord put Rennes 2-1 up by half-time.

Bordeaux went ahead again with goals from Didier Tholot and Christophe Dugarry. But two more goals in the final 10 minutes by Carteron and Wiltord gave the home team victory.

OLYMPICS Japan and South Korea claimed places in the Atlanta Olympics soccer tournament after semifinal victories in the Asian zone qualifying group Sunday.

The two countries will meet on Wednesday to decide the Asian group championship while semifinal losers Saudi Arabia and Iraq will play to see who will win the third and final Olympic berth.

Maezono Masakiyo scored in the fourth and 57th minute, in Japan's 2-1 victory over the Saudis.

Choi Yong Su scored in the 19th and 38th minutes to lead South Korea to 2-1 victory over Iraq, sending the Koreans into the Olympic tournament for a fifth time.

Australians Dominate In Super 12

Agence France-Presse

Australian teams finished the weekend holding three of the top four places in the Super 12 Southern Hemisphere provincial rugby series.

New South Wales is on top after beating the previously undefeated Australian Capital Territory, 44-10, in Sydney on Sunday.

The Waratahs, who lost to a try two minutes from time a weak ago against Northern Transvaal, smashed the Brumbies six tries to two, with Wallaby fullback Matt Burke scoring 19 points from a try, four conversions and two penalties.

Otago relinquished its top spot after losing, 59-29, to Northern Transvaal in Pretoria.

Queensland moved into third after staving off a late revival from Wellington to win, 32-25, in Auckland.

In Johannesburg, Transvaal gained its first victory in the Super 12, beating Waikato of New Zealand, 26-23.

■ Australian League Kicks Off

The Australian Rugby League premiership began over the weekend but a strike by players meant only four of the 10 scheduled games were played.

The start of the league had already been delayed three weeks by legal actions involving clubs that want to form a separate league financed by Rupert Murdoch's television companies. The players contracted to Murdoch's Super League stayed away. *(Reuters)*

Kwan Brings Art Back to Skating

By Randy Harvey
Los Angeles Times

EDMONTON, Alberta — There have been some remarkable performances by women figure skaters over the past three decades — Peggy Fleming at the 1968 national championships in Philadelphia, Dorothy Hamill at the 1975 world championships in Munich, Katarina Witt at the 1987 world championships in Cincinnati — when athleticism and artistry met to create a magical moment.

But almost no one could remember anything like Saturday night in the Edmonton Coliseum, where two women skated so superbly, perhaps better than any women have before, in a world championship that is likely to be remembered for ages. Or at least until next year. Both the new champion, Michelle Kwan of the United States, and the dethroned one, Chen Lu of China, are teenagers.

Chen, 19, did not let go of her title easily, earning two 6.0s for presentation in a four-minute long program that she skated with grace and precision to Rachmaninov's Piano Concerto No. 2.

Declining to watch Chen perform but listening to the scores over the public address system from a small room underneath the stands reserved for the flower girls, Kwan, 15, was almost paralyzed as she contemplated her turn on the ice 20 minutes later.

"After I heard Lu Lu's marks, I thought, 'What am I going to do? I'll have to do a quadruple loop to win.' "

But Frank Carroll, who coaches Kwan, calmed her.

"You've got to believe in yourself, that you can do this," he told her. "You're one of the best skaters in the world."

The best. In her provocative long program, Kwan portrayed Salome, whose dance of the seven veils earned her the head of John the Baptist. It earned Kwan two 6.0s for presentation to match Chen's plus 5.9s from the other seven judges.

But the most revealing difference in their performances, perhaps the only one to all except the most astute observers, was the triple toe jump that Kwan inserted in the final seconds. Planning to do a double axel, she opted for the more difficult move because she had not done the triple loop earlier in her program.

It was not exactly spontaneous because she had practiced the program both ways, but the decision to attempt a more challenging and risky jump that late was the mark of a champion. It gave her seven triple jumps to Chen's six.

Ottavio Cinquanta, the president of the International Skating Union who is still learning figure skating after decades in speedskating, turned to officials near him and said, "That's sport."

The field this year considered so vulnerable that Japan's Midori Ito, 26, returned after four years as a professional intent on winning her second world championship. But, battling anemia that forced her to a hospital emergency room last week for treatment, she was never a factor, finishing seventh.

That was only once place ahead of Tonia Kwiatkowski, runner-up to Kwan in the U.S. championships. Two Russians, Irina Slutskaya and Maria Butyrskaya, finished third and fourth, respectively. France's Surya Bonaly, three times a runner-up, was fifth.



Jeff Haynes/Agence France-Presse

Michelle Kwan skating her world-winning program.

No. 1 Muster Tumbles Again

The Associated Press

KEY BISCAYNE, Florida — Thomas Muster has given critics of his No. 1 ranking more ammunition. Muster lost his opening match at the Lipton Championships to unheralded Nicolas Pereira of Venezuela, 7-6 (7-4), 6-4.

"Maybe he's the best player in the world on clay," said Pete Sampras, who is ranked No. 2. "But I don't think players consider him the best player in the world on indoor, hard court or grass." The Lipton tournament is played on a hard-court surface.

A sullen Muster was defiant in defeat Saturday.

"I don't have to show anybody that I can do anything anywhere," he said. "I can do well anywhere."

Detractors say the ATP tour computer overrates Muster, who struggles on surfaces other than clay. Since the start of last year, he is 70-2 on his favorite surface and 29-22 away from clay.

Despite the latest loss, Muster will remain No. 1 unless Sampras reaches the final. Sampras easily won his opening match, beating the Dutchman Sjeng Schalken, 6-3, 6-2.

■ Swede Upsets Home Favorite

Magnus Gustafsson of Sweden upset top-seeded Yevgeny Kafelnikov, 6-2, 7-6 (7-4), Sunday to win the St. Petersburg Open. Gustafsson drilled a forehand down the line on match point.

Kafelnikov, the Russian defending champion who is ranked No. 7 in the world, had declared he would win the tournament. He had dropped only one set en route to the final, but he proved no match for Gustafsson.

Kafelnikov won the doubles with countryman Andrei Olhovskiy over the Swedish team of Nicklas Kulti and Peter Nyborg, 6-3, 6-4.

Front-Runner Takes Portuguese

Reuters

LISBON — Wayne Riley of Australia demonstrated his qualities as a front-runner Sunday, winning the Portuguese Open at Aroeira by two strokes.

Riley, who kept Nick Faldo and Colin Montgomerie at bay in the Scottish Open last July, completed his second European golf tour victory after leading from the second day.

Unruffled by a rain delay of three hours, Riley shot a closing 70 to finish with a 13-under-par total of 271. Britons Mark Davis and Martin Gates shared second place.

Riley's two-stroke overnight advantage was cut to one when he bogeyed the 209-yard eighth and Gates birdied it. But the Australian responded with a 15-foot eagle putt on the next to be out in 33. When he birdied the 10th, another par five, he was four clear.

Davis reduced that to one again, after an eagle on the 10th with birdies at the 12th and 17th, while Riley was bogeying the 12th and 16th. But at the 397-yard last hole, he pushed his approach into sand, only just got out and could do no better than a bogey five.

Briton Barry Lane equaled the course record with a nine-under 63 to share fourth place.

SCOREBOARD

BASKETBALL

NBA Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Orlando	52	17	.754	—
New York	38	27	.585	12
Miami	34	33	.507	17
Washington	30	37	.448	21
New Jersey	27	40	.403	24
Boston	26	41	.388	25
Philadelphia	13	55	.191	38½

CENTRAL DIVISION

y-Chicago	60	7	.896	—
Indiana	41	26	.612	19
Atlanta	38	29	.567	22
Cleveland	38	29	.567	22
Detroit	38	30	.559	22½
Charlotte	33	33	.500	26½
Milwaukee	27	45	.318	38½
Toronto	17	49	.258	42½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

MIDWEST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-San Antonio	48	18	.727	—
x-Utah	47	20	.701	1½
Houston	42	25	.618	7
Denver	28	39	.418	20½
Minnesota	23	45	.338	26
Dallas	21	46	.313	27½
Vancouver	11	54	.169	36½

PACIFIC DIVISION

x-Seattle	52	15	.776	—
L.A. Lakers	41	24	.631	10
Phoenix	33	34	.493	19
Portland	32	35	.478	20
Sacramento	30	36	.455	21½
Golden State	31	38	.449	22
L.A. Clippers	25	42	.373	27

x-clinched playoff spot, y-clinched division

FRIDAY'S RESULTS

San Antonio 31 30 32 27—120
Toronto 28 29 19 32—108
S.A.: Elliott 9-15 3-4 24, Robinson 9-14 6-11 24; T: Murray 12-22 2-2 29, Staudamire 10-22 0-0 23. Rebounds—San Antonio 47 (Robinson 9), Toronto 49 (Miller 12). Assists—San Antonio 31 (Johnson 11), Toronto 28 (Staudamire 13).

Denver 25 30 20 23— 98
Boston 22 23 30 24— 99
D: D. Ellis 12-16 2-2 27, R. Williams 6-10 2-2 15; B: Wesley 6-19 9-12 24, Miner 9-13 6-6 24. Rebounds—Denver 51 (Mutombo 12), Boston 48 (Lister 13). Assists—Denver 23 (Overton, R.Williams 5), Boston 21 (Wesley 9).

Orlando 24 32 21 24 10—111
Washington 23 31 22 25 7—108
O: O'Neal 21-40 7-13 49, Hardaway 13-20 4-7 30; W: Howard 10-20 7-10 27, Whitney 5-9 6-6 19. Rebounds—Orlando 59 (O'Neal 17), Washington 46 (Howard, Maureson 8). Assists—Orlando 19 (Hardaway 7), Washington 28 (Price 9).

Atlanta 29 28 36 32—117
Charlotte 29 19 23 21—92
A: Smith 9-17 4-5 27, Blaylock 4-9 6-6 16; C: Johnson 7-10 4-4 20, Rice 5-17 8-8 18. Rebounds—Atlanta 52 (Loehner 11), Charlotte 43 (Johnson 8). Assists—Atlanta 28 (Blaylock 11), Charlotte 23 (Johnson 6).

New Jersey 26 25 28 25— 96
Detroit 32 29 22 28—111
N.J.: Childs 5-10 6-7 16, Williams 5-10 3-3 13; D: Hill 8-11 10-12 26. Rebounds—New Jersey 42 (Williams 7), Detroit 41 (Hill 9). Assists— New Jersey 24 (Childs 8), Detroit 22 (Hill, Houston, Dumars 5).

Vancouver 32 16 25 27— 94
Indiana 32 30 26 23—111
V: Reeves 7-13 5-7 19, B. Edwards 7-10 0-0 15; I: McKey 8-10 3-3 19, Miller 7-11 6-7 23. Rebounds—Vancouver 35 (Reeves 9), Indiana 51 (D.Davis 10). Assists—Vancouver 22 (Anthony 9), Indiana 31 (Jackson 10).

Miami 38 28 39 25—122
Milwaukee 30 31 27 18—106
Mia: Williams 7-13 3-4 23, Mourning 8-19 5-8 21, Chapman 7-12 2-2 20, Gatling 11-16 1-1 23; Mil: Baker 10-19 3-6 23, Robinson 8-18 3-4 20. Rebounds— Miami 51 (Mourning 13), Milwaukee 49 (Cummings 10). Assists—Miami 29 (Hardaway 13), Milwaukee 27 (Robinson 10).

Minnesota 29 26 21 34—110
Dallas 24 22 18 28— 84
M: Guglietta 9-14 7-10 26, Rider 13-20 3-3 31; D: McCloud 8-23 3-4 22, Jones 4-10 6-8 15. Rebounds—Minnesota 66 (Guglietta 17), Dallas 67 (Jones 10). Assists—Minnesota 22 (Porter 7), Dallas 18 (Kidd 7).

Cleveland 16 27 13 19—75
Utah 24 18 25 27—89
C: Brandon 5-14 12-14 22, Hill 5-10 1-2 11; U: Malone 8-18 10-14 27, Homacek 7-11 2-2 16. Rebounds—Cleveland 48 (Hill 11), Utah 45 (Malone 12). Assists—Cleveland 16 (Brandon 5), Utah 25 (Stockton 9).

Philadelphia 19 26 16 32—93
L.A. Clippers 22 25 31 29—107
P: Weatherspoon 6-14 12-16 24, Mcdowell 10-24 4-6 27; L.A.: Rogers 10-14 0-0 22, Williams 10-18 4-4 24. Rebounds—Philadelphia 54 (Weatherspoon 12), Los Angeles 47 (Vaught 12). Assists— Philadelphia 14 (Griffin 5), Los Angeles 20 (Richardson, Dehere 6).

Portland 23 21 22 12— 78
Sacramento 23 23 19 15— 80
P: C. Robinson 4-15 6-8 15, Sabonis 4-8 5-8 14; S: B. Grant 8-21 2-4 18, Richmond 5-13 7-8 19. Rebounds—Portland 65 (Dudley 13), Sacramento 61 (B.Grant 12). Assists—Portland 15 (Strickland 7), Sacramento 14 (Edney 6).

SATURDAY'S RESULTS

Detroit 18 16 22 28— 84
Atlanta 25 20 22 25— 92
D: Dumars 6-11 2-2 12, Houston 10-17 13-15 38; A: Long 8-20 1-2 17, Smith 8-13 6-7 27. Rebounds—Detroit 51 (Hill 12), Atlanta 46 (Long 9). Assists—Detroit 12 (Dumars 7), Atlanta 16 (Blaylock 7).

Minnesota 24 26 29 25—104
Houston 21 24 22 36—103
M: Rider 8-16 3-4 19, Webb 6-11 2-2 17; H: Olajuwon 16-23 14-18 46, Raconner 4-8 3-4 12. Rebounds—Minnesota 44 (Guglietta 12), Houston 57 (Olajuwon 19). Assists—Minnesota 27 (Webb 8), Houston 26 (Olajuwon 8).

Philadelphia 23 25 19 22— 89
Seattle 37 48 23 29—129
P: Weatherspoon 7-16 3-7 17, Maxwell 5-17 6-6 16; S: Kemp 8-12 4-4 20, Hawkins 6-8 6-6 19. Rebounds— Philadelphia 42 (Weatherspoon 9), Seattle 54 (Johnson 11). Assists— Philadelphia 18 (Walters 6), Seattle 30 (Schrempf 8).

Phoenix 25 24 22 18— 89
Golden State 23 21 21 33— 98
P: Barkley 9-20 7-8 25, Johnson 4-9 6-8 14; G.S.: Smith 5-14 4-4 14, Sprewell 9-20 8-9 27. Rebounds—Phoenix 48 (Williams 11), Golden State 48 (Wills 10). Assists—Phoenix 15 (Johnson 7), Golden State 24 (Sprewell 8).

Major College Scores

NCAA TOURNAMENT
REGIONAL SEMI-FINALS

SOUTHWEST

Mississippi St. 60, Connecticut 55
Cincinnati 87, Georgia Tech 78

WEST

Syracuse 83, Georgia 81, OT
Kansas 83, Arizona 80

REGIONAL FINALS

MIDWEST

Kentucky 63, Wake Forest 63

EAST

Massachusetts 86, Georgetown 62

NIT THIRD ROUND

Nebraska 83, Fresno St. 71

HOCKEY

NHL Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC DIVISION

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
N.Y. Rangers	37	20	14	88	247	201
Florida	38	25	9	85	237	208
Philadelphia	36	22	13	85	241	186
New Jersey	33	28	11	77	187	171
Tampa Bay	33	28	11	77	213	223
Washington	33	29	10	76	201	187
N.Y. Islanders	20	43	8	48	203	275

NORTHEAST DIVISION

Pittsburgh	42	25	4	88	318	268
Montreal	36	28	8	80	237	220
Boston	34	29	9	77	246	239
Hartford	30	32	9	69	211	225
Buffalo	28	37	7	63	212	226
Ottawa	15	52	4	34	165	255

WESTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
y-Detroit	55	12	4	114	280	158
Chicago	37	24	11	85	245	192
St. Louis	31	29	12	74	194	208
Toronto	28	34	12	68	215	229
Winnipeg	30	36	5	65	238	260
Dallas	23	36	13	59	202	241

PACIFIC DIVISION

x-Colorado	41	22	10	92	286	214
Calgary	30	31	11	71	215	210
Vancouver	28	31	15	71	254	255
Anaheim	29	36	6	64	203	218
Edmonton	27	38	7	61	211	272
Los Angeles	21	37	16	58	230	275
San Jose	18	49	7	43	230	317

y-clinched division title, x-clinched playoff spot

FRIDAY'S RESULTS

Hartford 1, Ottawa 1, tie
Chicago 4, New Jersey 2
Detroit 7, Colorado 0
Montreal 4, Buffalo 1
Winnipeg 4, Philadelphia 1
Anaheim 6, St. Louis 1
San Jose 2, Calgary 1, OT
Vancouver 5, Dallas 2

SATURDAY'S RESULTS

N.Y. Rangers 5, Boston 4
New Jersey 3, N.Y. Islanders 2, OT
Edmonton 6, Montreal 5
Philadelphia 4, Toronto 0
Buffalo 7, Pittsburgh 5
Hartford 2 Washington 2, tie
Tampa Bay 4, Florida 2
Calgary 4, Vancouver 0
Dallas 4, Los Angeles 4, tie

BASEBALL

Exhibition Results

FRIDAY'S GAMES

N.Y. Mets 5, Atlanta 4
Houston 4, Los Angeles 1
Kansas City 14, Cincinnati 3
Minnesota 4, Baltimore 2
Detroit 7, Pittsburgh 4
Boston 8, Montreal 5
Texas 13, St. Louis 4
California 9, San Diego 5
Colorado 3, Milwaukee 2
Cleveland 5, Florida 1
Toronto 2, Philadelphia 0
N.Y. Yankees 3, Chicago White Sox 2
Chicago Cubs 9, San Francisco 4
Seattle 8, Oakland 2

SATURDAY'S GAMES

Chicago White Sox 5, Minnesota 3
Pittsburgh 3, Kansas City 1
Florida 11, Baltimore 1
Cleveland 6, Philadelphia 1
Boston 8, N.Y. Yankees 6
Montreal 6, Atlanta 3
Texas 7, Toronto 3
Detroit 3, Houston 0
St. Louis 10, Cincinnati 8
Los Angeles 9, N.Y. Mets 0
Oakland 9, Colorado 1
San Francisco (ss) 8, Milwaukee 6
San Diego (ss) 10, San Francisco (ss) 7
San Diego (ss) 12, Chicago Cubs 7
Seattle 15, California 1

SOCCER

ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE

Manchester United 1, Tottenham 0
Arsenal 2, Newcastle 0
Bolton 2, Sheffield Wednesday 1
Chelsea 1, Queen's Park Rangers 1
Everton 2, Wimbledon 4
Nottingham Forest 1, Liverpool 0
West Ham 4, Manchester City 2

STANDINGS: Manchester United 67 points; Newcastle 64; Liverpool 59; Aston Villa 59; Arsenal 54; Tottenham 51; Everton 48; Blackburn 48; Nottingham Forest 47; Chelsea 45; West Ham 45; Leeds 39; Middlesbrough 36; Sheffield Wednesday 35; Wimbledon 30; Manchester City 30; Coventry 27; Southampton 25; Bolton 25; Queens Park Rangers 24.

FRENCH FIRST DIVISION

Cannes 2, Guingamp 0
Le Havre 1, Guingamp 0
Lens 3, St Etienne 0
Lyon 1, Nantes 1
Martigues 0, Nice 0
Metz 2, Lille 0
Montpellier 0, Monaco 0
Rennes 4, Bordeaux 3
Strasbourg 4, Bastia 3

STANDINGS: Paris St Germain 60 points; Auxerre 55; Lens 55; Metz 52; Monaco 52; Montpellier 48; Strasbourg 47; Guingamp 47; Rennes 47; Nantes 47; Le Havre 42; Bastia 41; Lyon 41; Bordeaux 36; Cannes 36; Nice 35; Lille 30; St Etienne 29; Guingamp 27; Martigues 22.

SPANISH FIRST DIVISION

Tenerife 1, Real Betis 2
Sporting Gijon 3, Merida 1
Compostela 0, Valencia 4
Salamanca 1, Barcelona 3
Albacete 0, Oviedo 1
Racing Santander 1, Rayo Vallecano 2
Atletico Madrid 1, Zaragoza 1
Sevilla 1, Valladolid 1
Espanyol 0, Deportivo 0
Celta 3, Athletic Bilbao 1

STANDINGS: Atletico Madrid 69 points; Barcelona 63; Valencia 61; Real Betis 56; Espanyol 55; Compostela 53; Tenerife 51; Real Madrid 50; Real Sociedad 47; Deportivo Coruna 46; Celta Vigo 41; Oviedo 38; Racing Santander 37; Zaragoza 37; Rayo Vallecano 37; Sevilla 36; Athletic Bilbao 34; Sporting Gijon 33; Valladolid 33; Albacete 30; Merida 27; Salamanca 24.

DUTCH FIRST DIVISION

Roda JC 3, De Graafschap Doetinchem 1
Heerenveen 5, Fortuna Sittard 1
Vitesse Arnhem 0, Go Ahead Eagles 0
RKC Waalwijk 3, Willem II Tilburg 2
FC Utrecht 0, Breda 4
FC Twente Enschede 1, Sparta Rotterdam 0
FC Volendam 1, Nimejen 0
FC Groningen 1, PSV Eindhoven 0

STANDINGS: Ajax Amsterdam 63 points; PSV Eindhoven 61; Feyenoord Rotterdam 44; Heerenveen 43; Vitesse Arnhem 42; Sparta Rotterdam 41; NAC Breda 40; Roda JC Kerkrade 40; Willem II Tilburg 36; Groningen 34; Twente Enschede 33; RKC Waalwijk 32; Fortuna Sittard 24; Go Ahead Eagles Deventer 22; De Graafschap Doetinchem 20; NEC Nijmegen 19; Utrecht 17; Volendam 15.

GERMAN BUNDESLIGA

Freiburg 2, Cologne 0
Kaiserslautern 0, Werder Bremen 0
Bayer Leverkusen 1, Bayern Munich 2
Borussia Dortmund 6, Eintracht Frankfurt 0
Uerdingen 1, Fortuna Duesseldorf 3
1860 Munich 1, Schalke 1
Kaisruhe 3, Hamburg 1
Borussia Moenchengladbach 1, Stuttgart 1
St Pauli 3, Hansa Rostock 2

STANDINGS: Borussia Dortmund 51 points; Bayern Munich 50; Borussia Moenchengladbach 38; VfB Stuttgart 36; Schalke 34; Hamburg 33; Freiburg 33; Bayer Leverkusen 31; Hansa Rostock 29; 1860 Munich 29; Kaisruhe 29; Werder Bremen 27; Eintracht Frankfurt 26; St Pauli 25; Fortuna Duesseldorf 25; Cologne 24; Kaiserslautern 21; Uerdingen 16.

ITALIAN FIRST DIVISION

Bari 2, Padova 1
Cremonese 2, Lazio 1
Fiorentina 0, Juventus 1
AC Milan 3, Parma 0
Roma 2, Piacenza 1
Sampdoria 2, Atalanta 2
Udinese 1, Inter 2
Vicenza 3, Napoli 0

STANDINGS: AC Milan 56 points; Juventus 49; Fiorentina 47; Inter 44; Parma 43; Lazio 39; Roma 39; Vicenza 38; Sampdoria 35; Udinese 34; Napoli 31; Cagliari 31; Atalanta 30; Piacenza 28; Torino 24; Cremonese 22; Bari 22; Padova 21.

ENGLISH LEAGUE CUP FINAL

Aston Villa 3, Leeds 0

TENNIS

St. Petersburg Open

SEMIFINALS

Yevgeny Kafelnikov (1), Russia, def. Filip Dewulf (4), Belgium, 6-3, 6-4; Magnus Gustafsson (7), Sweden, def. Lars Burgsmuller, Germany, 7-5, 7-5.

FINAL

Gustafsson def. Kafelnikov 6-2, 7-6 (7-4).

Davis Cup Results

ASIA/OCEANIA ZONE

GROUP A

Malaysia 2, Pacific Oceania 1
Singapore 2, Kazakhstan 1
Syria 3, Oman 0
Kazakhstan 2, Oman 1
Singapore 3, Malaysia 0
Pacific Oceania 2, Syria 1

GROUP B

Brunei 2, United Arab Emirates 1
Lebanon 3, Bangladesh 0
Kuwait 2, Qatar 1
Jordan 3, United Arab Emirates 0
Lebanon 3, Kuwait 0
Bangladesh 2, Qatar 1

RUGBY

SUPER 12 RUGBY UNION

Queensland 32, Wellington 25
Transvaal 26, New Zealand 23
New South Wales 44, Australian Capital 18

CHALLENGE CUP
SEMIFINALS

Bradford 28, Leeds 6

CYCLING

Milan — San Remo

Leading placings in the 87th Milan to San Remo race, the opening round of the World Cup, over 294 kms from Milan on Saturday: 1, Gabriele Colombo, Italy, Gewiss, seven hours and 27 seconds; 2, Alexandre Gontchenkov, Ukraine, Refin; Michele Coppolillo, Italy, MG; Max Sciandri, Britain, Motorola, one second behind; 5, Stefano Zanini, Italy, Gewiss, 32 seconds behind; 6, Fabio Baldato, Italy, MG; 7, Mario Cipollini, Italy, Saeco; 8, Johan Museeuw, Belgium, Mapei; 9, Laurent Brochard, France, Festina; 10, Andrei Tchmil, Ukraine, Lotto.

GOLF

Portuguese Open

Leading final scores after the final round of the Portuguese Open at Aroeira on Sunday: Wayne Riley Australia 65 67 69 70—271; Mark Davis Britain 72 68 66 67—273; Martin Gates Britain 68 70 65 70—273; Barry Lane Britain 70 71 71 63—275; J. Haeggman Sweden 67 72 68 68—275; Jose Caceres Argentina 67 68 71 70—276; Klas Eriksson Sweden 63 73 73 68—277; Jamie Spence Britain 72 66 71 68—277; J. V. de Velde France 74 65 70 68—277; Jose Rivero Spain 71 68 69 69—277; M.Tarnicliff Britain 75 66 67 69—277

TRANSITIONS

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE

NEW YORK—Optioned Ruben Rivera, outfielder, and Jim Mecir, pitcher, to Columbus, IHL. Assigned José De Jesus, pitcher, and Ivan Cruz and Freddie Benavides, infielders, to their minor-league camp.

THE WEEK AHEAD

MONDAY, MARCH 25:

SOCCER Puerto Ordaz, Venezuela — Copa Libertadores, First Round: Minerven vs. River Plate.

TUESDAY, MARCH 26:

SOCCER Osijek, Croatia — Exhibition match: Croatia vs. Israel; various sites — Copa Libertadores, 1st Round: Espoli vs. Cerro Porteno, Sporting Cristal vs. Peñarol, Jorioro vs. Gualoim, Botafogo vs. Universidad Catolica.

CRICKET Jamaica — One-day International, West Indies vs. New Zealand.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27:

SOCCER Munich, Germany — exhibition, Germany vs. Denmark; Wembley, England — exhibition, England vs. Bulgaria; Brussels, Belgium — exhibition, Belgium vs. France; Ostawa, Czech Republic — exhibition, Czech Republic vs. Turkey; Dublin, Ireland — exhibition, Ireland vs. Russia; Edinburgh, Scotland — exhibition, Scotland vs. Australia; Vienna, Austria — exhibition, Austria vs. Switzerland; Lisbon, Portugal — exhibition, Portugal vs. Greece; Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia — Asian Olympic qualifying tournament, Finals.

RUGBY Auckland, New Zealand — Super 12, Auckland vs. Western Province.

THURSDAY, MARCH 28:

GOLF Madeira, Portugal — Madeira Island Open, through March 31; Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida — The Players Championship, through March 31.

FRIDAY, MARCH 29:

SOCCER Georgetown, Guyana — CONCACAF, World Cup Qualifying, Caribbean Zone, First Round, First Leg, Guyana vs. Grenada; various sites — Copa Libertadores, First Round: Barcelona vs. Cerro Porteno, America vs. Gualoim, Corinthians vs. Universidad Catolica, Caracas FC vs. River Plate.

CRICKET Port-of-Spain, Trinidad — one-day International, West Indies vs. New Zealand.

RUGBY Paris — Paris Saint Germain vs. Sheffield Eagles, opening game of European Super League; Sydney, Australia — Global League, opening day, through Sept. 7; Canberra, Australia — Super 12, ACT vs. Natal; Christchurch, New Zealand — Super 12, Canterbury vs. New South Wales; Brisbane, Australia — Super 12, Queensland vs. Northern Transvaal.

SATURDAY, MARCH 30:

BASEBALL Tokyo — Japan MLB, Pacific League opening day.

CRICKET Port-of-Spain, Trinidad — one-day International, West Indies vs. New Zealand.

OLYMPICS Ancient Olympia, Greece — lighting of Olympic flame.

RUGBY Hong Kong — Hong Kong Sevens; Dunedin, New Zealand — Super 12, Otago vs. Wellington; Hamilton, New Zealand — Super 12, Waikato vs. Western Province.

SOCCER Lima, Peru — CONMEBOL Copa Libertadores, First Round, Group F: Universitario vs. Defensor.

SUNDAY, MARCH 31:

AUTO RACING Interlagos, Brazil — Formula One, Brazilian Grand Prix.

BASEBALL New York — U.S. MLB, American major league season opening day.

SOCCER various sites — CONCACAF, World Cup Qualifying, Caribbean Zone, First Round, First Leg: Aruba vs. Dominican Republic, Antigua vs. Dominica; Second Round, First Leg: Suriname vs. Jamaica.

SPORTS

Syracuse Sneaks Past Georgia in Overtime

Kansas, Mississippi State and Cincinnati Go to Regional Finals

Washington Post Service

With 2.8 seconds left in overtime, John Wallace, the Syracuse forward, hit a three-pointer from the top of the key to give the Orangemen an 83-81 victory over Georgia in the NCAA tournament's West Region semifinals in Denver.

Wallace's shot sent the Orangemen into the National Collegiate Athletic Association regional final on Sunday against second-seeded Kansas, which also won with a clutch shot as time expired.

Wallace — who declared himself eligible for the National Basketball Association draft last spring but changed his mind and returned to school — earned first team All-Big East and second-team All-America honors this season. On Friday, he showed why, finishing with 30 points and 15 rebounds despite playing with foul trouble.

He also scored Syracuse's final 10 points in overtime. He made only one of his four three-point shots, but it was the one that mattered most.

"I felt I had a good look at the basket," said Wallace, who dribbled down the court after Pertha Robinson of Georgia made a three-pointer to give the Bulldogs an 81-80 lead with 7.1 seconds left. "The player in front of me never left the ground. He just put his hands up, I elevated over him and got a good look."

That final shot capped a game full of clutch baskets from both teams. The Bulldogs seemed to have had the game won in regulation, when Robinson made a put-back jumper with 3.5 seconds left to put his team up 80-78. But, with 2.4 seconds left, Wallace threw a long inbounds pass to Syracuse guard Jason Cipolla, who nailed a jumper from the left corner as the buzzer sounded.

Robinson finished with 21 points and guard Kanu Davis added 16 for the Bulldogs. The Orangemen got 19 points from center Otis Hill and 17 from Cipolla.

NCAA Tournament

Kansas 83, Arizona 80 Junior guard Jerod Haase hit a three-point shot with 35.9 seconds left to give Kansas the victory over third-seeded Arizona in the other semifinal.

Haase's shot was as clutch as the one Wallace made. Haase, who scored 16 points, nailed the shot from the left baseline to give his team an 81-79 lead. After his teammate Jacque Vaughn added two free throws, Arizona's Joe McLean was fouled with 3.6 seconds left. He made the first free throw and missed the second one on purpose. McLean came up with the rebound, but his desperation shot from the foul line fell short as time expired.

Arizona had led 33-21 with 7:32 left in the first half. But after a timeout, Kansas went on a 13-0 run and led 41-39 at the break.

The Jayhawks stretched the lead to 72-60, but Arizona rallied and led 77-74 with 1:55 left before Haase nailed his game-winning shot.

"I felt pretty good," said Haase, who had only one basket in the second half. "In the second half, I didn't hit my shots, but with four minutes left I just said to myself, 'This is just a basketball game, try to relax.'"

Mississippi State 60, University of Connecticut 55 Darryl Wilson of Mississippi State stole the spotlight from the University of Connecticut's star backcourt of Ray Allen and Doron Sheffer at Rupp Arena.

The guard made seven three-pointers en route to a game-high 27 points as the Bulldogs beat the top-seeded Huskies in a Southeast Region NCAA semifinal game.

Mississippi State earned its first trip to the final eight. But if coach Richard Williams was walking on air after the victory, he was quickly brought back to earth as he watched the night's second semifinal.

In that game, second-seeded Cincinnati raced to a lead early in the second half and brushed aside third-seeded Georgia Tech.

The Huskies were, for the most part, sluggish and out of sync. Their 55 points were a season low, even though they out-rebounded the Bulldogs 45-35, including a whopping 23 offensive rebounds.

The Huskies wasted many of those second chances, shooting 32 percent.

They fell behind 27-17 after a three-pointer by Wilson with just under nine minutes left in the first half, and their deficit remained at least 10 points until a bit more than six minutes remained in the game.

Connecticut's only sustained offensive effort was a 17-7 run that made it 55-50 with 3:38 left. But Allen, who scored six points in the run, missed a pair of jump shots and Mississippi State finally scored with 1:30 left, on a driving lay-up from Wilson.

In the final seconds, Allen, who made an improbable hanging last-second jumper to beat Georgetown in the Big East final, missed his attempt at a game-tying three-pointer.

Allen had 22 points to lead Connecticut, but Sheffer finished with 10 points.

Cincinnati 87, Georgia Tech 70 The Bearcats put the game away with a 16-5 run early in the second half, extending an eight-point lead by 19 points.

Guard Damon Flint, who led six Cincinnati players in double figures with 18 points, hit a pair of three-pointers to trigger the decisive run.

After Georgia Tech closed to 58-43, Cincinnati went inside to 6-foot-7, 255-pound power forward Danny Fortson. In one sequence, Fortson missed a shot and grabbed two offensive rebounds before Georgia Tech could only wearily foul him. Fortson finished with 16 rebounds, nine offensive, for Cincinnati, which advanced to the final eight for the third time in the last five seasons.

■ Fort Hays Takes Division II

Sherick Simpson scored 24 points and Anthony Pope added 19 as Fort Hays State beat Northern Kentucky, 70-63, Saturday to win the NCAA Division II championship. Fort Hays became the third team in the division's 40-year history to finish the season unbeaten *(AP)*



Eric Miller/Reuters

Tim Duncan, of Wake Forest, passing away from Kentucky's Walter McCarty (left) and Antoine Walker. The Wildcats kept Duncan quiet and won, 83-63.

Coaching Change Agrees With Ewing

He Leads Knicks in Scoring for 7th Straight Game in Victory Over Mavs

The Associated Press

Patrick Ewing is flourishing under the new coach of the New York Knicks, Jeff Van Gundy. Ewing led the Knicks in scoring for the seventh straight game Sunday, with 36 points in an 85-79 victory over the Dallas Mavericks.

"I think with Van Gundy as coach, we are refocused," Ewing said.

Ewing scored 17 points in the third quarter and hit three critical shots late in the fourth period in Dallas as New York extended the Mavericks' losing streak to 10 games.

"Patrick was amazing," said Van Gundy, who is 5-2 since replacing the fired Don Nelson. "When you've been around seven years watching him, amazing is the usual thing for him."

Ewing also hauled down 15 rebounds as the Knicks built a 15-point lead and withstood a Dallas rally that cut the lead to 79-77 with 5 minutes, 9 seconds to play. Ewing scored two quick baskets, and the Mavs, who were led by Popeye Jones's 17 points and 17 rebounds, could not recover.

"Patrick was Patrick, that's why he got an $18 million bonus," said Dick Motta, the Mavericks' coach. "He was shooting his shots too quickly from the baseline for us to double him."

Spurs 106, Pacers 88 Chuck Person hit three 3-pointers in a 15-2 fourth-quarter run as San Antonio won in Indianapolis.

David Robinson topped the Spurs with 22 points and 13 rebounds. It was San Antonio's 13th straight victory.

Person missed his first six shots against his former team before connecting for the first of two straight 3-pointers with 10:03 to play, giving the Spurs an 81-75 lead.

The Pacers, playing without leading scorer Reggie Miller, who was ejected with his second technical in the third period, made just one of their first eight shots in the final quarter.

Two free throws by Rik Smits produced Indiana's only points during San Antonio's fourth-quarter scoring run, which ended on an Avery Johnson basket that made the score 93-77. The Pacers went more than 5 minutes without a field goal.

Smits topped the Pacers with 16 points as Indiana shot 38 percent from the field.

San Antonio, which had lost three straight to Indiana, had six players in double figures.

Cavaliers 90, Grizzlies 85 Danny Ferry scored 13 fourth-quarter points as Cleveland held off a rally and handed visiting Vancouver its 18th consecutive loss.

The Grizzlies' losing streak is one away from their season-worst skid of 19 in a row, which lasted from Nov. 7 to Dec. 13.

Ferry finished with 22 points and Michael Cage grabbed 14 rebounds for the Cavaliers, winners of four of their last five.

Cleveland remained a full game behind the New York Knicks in the race for the fourth spot in the Eastern Conference playoff seedings. The fourth-seeded team will get home-court advantage for the first round.

Chris King led Vancouver with a career-high 20 points.

In games Saturday, Reuters reported:

Timberwolves 108, Rockets 103 Hakeem Olajuwon scored 46 points in his return from knee problems but the Rockets still lost, allowing Minnesota its first victory in Houston in three years.

Hawks 92, Pistons 84 Steve Smith scored 27 points, including the final five points of the game, to lift Atlanta to a home-court victory over Detroit.

Supersonics 129, 76ers 89 In Seattle, Shawn Kemp scored 20 points and Hersey Hawkins added 19 to lead the Supersonics to their largest margin of victory of the season over Philadelphia.

Warriors 96, Suns 89 Latrell Sprewell scored 27 points in Oakland as the Warriors rallied for a victory over Phoenix.

Michelle Carew Gets Blood Infusion

The Associated Press

Michelle Carew, the 18-year-old daughter of baseball Hall of Famer Rod Carew, received a rare infusion of infant umbilical-cord blood in hopes of staving off fatal leukemia.

Dr. Mitchell Cairo at Children's Hospital of Orange County, California, found a genetic match of cord blood at the New York Blood Center. It will take about a month to see whether stem cells from the new blood reproduce into healthy blood cells.

BASEBALL The Milwaukee Brewers submitted a financial package for their $90 million share of a new $250 million ballpark to a stadium board, but declined to publicly reveal the source of much of the funding.

U.S. ROUNDUP

FOOTBALL The Pittsburgh Steelers running back Bam Morris, the leading rusher in this year's Super Bowl, was released from jail after his arrest for possession of marijuana. Morris was arrested in Rockwell, Texas, during a traffic stop after police found what they said was more than six pounds of marijuana in the trunk of his car.

• A grand jury will order the former Dallas Cowboys tight end Alfredo Roberts to testify Tuesday about events in a motel room where he and Michael Irvin were found, along with cocaine and marijuana, according to a television report. Roberts, 31, one of two women in the room with him and Irvin appeared before the grand jury Thursday in answer to a subpoena. But both refused to testify, asserting their 5th Amendment right against self-incrimination, the station said.

BASKETBALL The Golden State Warriors will play their 1996-97 home games at the San Jose Arena while their new $121 million stadium is under construction in Oakland.

'Undeserving' Capitals Slip in Playoff Race

Reuters

Peter Bondra's goal midway through the third period lifted the Washington Capitals to a 2-2 tie with the Hartford Whalers, but the Caps were still disappointed.

Washington fell out of a three-way tie for the final playoff berth in the Eastern Conference with New Jersey and Tampa Bay, which both won.

"For 40 minutes tonight, I was so disappointed, no, I would say disgusted, with our effort," said Washington's coach, Jim Schoenfeld. "We didn't deserve a tie."

He said his team only managed the tie because of strong play by goalie Jim Carey, who had 34 saves.

"I can't make any excuses for the players, I have no reasons, they should have no alibis."

Neither team recorded a shot in overtime as Hartford outshot the Capitals, 36-32. The Whalers are eight points out of the final playoff spot in the East.

NHL Roundup

Devils 3, Islanders 2 On Long Island, Steve Thomas scored on a rebound against his former team with 1 minute, 22 seconds left in overtime to lift New Jersey to victory.

The Devils overcame a 2-1 third-period deficit to snap a three-game losing streak.

Stephane Richer scored the tying goal for New Jersey with 5:07 left in the third period.

Lightning 4, Panthers 2 Brian Bradley's goal midway through the third period snapped a tie and Daren Puppa stopped 20 shots as Tampa Bay kept pace for the final Eastern playoff berth with a home-ice victory over the Florida Panthers.

Petr Klima and Alexander Selivanov added a goal and an assist for Tampa Bay.

The Panthers lost for just the second time in 13 meetings with their Florida rivals.

Sabres 7, Penguins 5 Pat LaFontaine scored the game-winner and added a pair of assists, while Randy Burridge had a four-point night as Buffalo won in Pittsburgh.

Derek Plante pulled Buffalo into a 5-5 tie at 3:11 of the third, stopping a streak of four Pittsburgh goals.

Mario Lemieux had a goal and two assists but missed a penalty shot just before Burridge's empty-net goal with 12 seconds remaining. Lemieux was awarded the penalty shot when the Sabres goaltender, Dominik Hasek, threw his stick at a loose puck.

Rangers 5, Bruins 4 Mark Messier and Alexei Kovalev scored 2:16 apart in the third period as New York snapped Boston's eight-game unbeaten streak.

The Rangers squandered a three-goal lead in Boston before recovering. Messier finished with two goals and two assists and Brian Leetch had three assists for New York, which won for just the third time in its last 13 games.

Steve Heinze got his second career hat trick for Boston.

Oilers 6, Canadiens 5 Jason Arnott recorded his second career hat trick and set up Dean McAmmond's go-ahead goal midway through the third period as Edmonton snapped the Canadiens seven-game unbeaten streak in Montreal.

Arnott finished with three goals and two assists, helping the Oilers to their fifth win in seven games.

Flyers 4, Maple Leafs 0 Ron Hextall had to turn aside just 13 shots en route to his third shutout of the season as Philadelphia won in Toronto.

The Leafs have dropped three straight and recorded a season-low in shots.

Flames 4, Canucks 0 In Vancouver, Trevor Kidd, the Calgary goalie, stopped 26 shots to notch his third shutout of the season.

Theoren Fleury, Steve Chiasson, and Michael Nylander had a goal and an assist apiece for the Flames, who have won seven of their last nine games. Calgary moved into a tie with Vancouver for fifth place in the Western Conference.

Kings 4, Stars 4 In Los Angeles, Robert Lang's short-handed goal with 8:16 left in the third period lifted the Kings to a tie with Dallas.

The Stars are six points behind Winnipeg and Los Angeles is seven points back for the eighth and final playoff berth in the Western Conference.



Brian Snyder/Reuters

The Rangers' Adam Graves shooting the puck past Bruins goalie Bill Ranford.

THIS WEEK ON EUROSPORT



Mick Doohan has won the 500cc Motorcycle World Championship two years running: can he make it a hat trick ? Williams Renault achieved a 1-2 in the first race of the season; can Jacques Villeneuve gain his debut F1 win ?

Motorcycling : 30-31 March, LIVE, The Malaysian Grand-Prix, Shah Alam.
The action will be fast, furious and spectacular as the 1996 season gets underway at the Shah Alam circuit, outside of Kuala Lumpur.

Formula One : 29-31 March, LIVE, The Brazilian Grand-Prix, Interlagos.
After seeing Damon Hill collect maximum points in the opening race of the season, Michael Schumacher will be anxious to strike back in Brazil.

Tennis : 19-24 March, LIVE, The ATP Lipton Championship, Key Biscayne.
The Key Biscayne Super Nine tournament comes to its climax this week. Andre Agassi will be looking to repeat his win of last year.

Showjumping : 29-31 March, LIVE, The Volvo World Cup, Paris-Bercy.
The biggest names in showjumping gather in Paris for the 13th round of the Volvo World Cup.

Golf : 25 March, Eurogolf Magazine.
The latest news and views from the Portuguese Open and the rest of the PGA European Tour.

Eurosport, the sports TV channel for Europe, covering the best action from Europe and around the world, is available throughout Europe, via cable and satellite.

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Herald International Tribune
SPORTS
MONDAY, MARCH 25, 1996

WORLD ROUNDUP

Johnson's Double

ATHLETICS The International Amateur Athletics Federation decided Sunday to allow Michael Johnson to attempt a unique 200- and 400-meter double at the Olympics in Atlanta. The IAAF changed the Olympic schedule so all rounds of the men's 400-meter race will be completed before the first round of the 200-meter event. *(Reuters)*

• Olympic men's marathon champion Hwang Young Jo may be unable to defend his title in Atlanta after failing to qualify for the South Korean team Sunday. *(Reuters)*



Adal Bradlow/The Associated Press

Paul Tergat breaking the tape to keep his cross country title.

Kenyan Retains Title

CROSS COUNTRY Paul Tergat of Kenya comfortably retained his world cross country title, finishing 12 seconds in front of runner-up Salah Hissou of Morocco. Fellow Kenyan Ismael Kirui was third. Ethiopia's Haile Gebreselaise's hopes of ending Kenya's domination of the event were dashed after 10 kilometers, when he clipped a tree stump, stumbled and dropped from the leading group. Gete Wami of Ethiopia won the women's title by six seconds. *(Reuters, AFP)*

Colombo Takes Classic

CYCLING Italy's Gabriele Colombo won the Milan-San Remo, the first cycling classic of the season, crossing the line a few meters ahead of Ukraine's Alexandre Gontchenkov. *(AFP)*

Hong Kong Drug Probe

HORSE RACING Hong Kong racing authorities launched a drug inquiry after three horses from a leading stable were scratched Saturday after testing positive for a banned substance. Six horses from the stable have tested positive for the banned decongestant Dembrexine in checks ordered by the trainer, Patrick Biancone of France. *(Reuters)*

Takanohana Wins

SUMO Yokozuna (grand champion) Takanohana, already assured of his 12th tournament title, forced out Hawaiian-born Musashimaru on Sunday and finished the Spring Grand Sumo Tournament with a 14-1 record. Takanohana had clinched the title Saturday when his closest rivals — Takanonami and Wakanohana — suffered their third defeats. *(AP)*

A Laker at the Lake

BASKETBALL Fred Slaughter, the agent for Cedric Ceballos, the Los Angeles Lakers forward who was suspended by the club after disappearing Wednesday, called the team to say Ceballos had made contact with him and was fine. Slaughter told the Lakers that the player was working on a personal problem. But the owner of a business in Lake Havasu, Arizona, said Ceballos was there water skiing. *(AP)*

Triumphant Milan Harvests the Fruit of Heaven



Reuters

Antonio Benarrivo of Parma (left) tackling Dejan Savicevic, the AC Milan attacker, Sunday. Milan won, 3-0.

By Ian Thomsen
International Herald Tribune

MILAN — The fans let AC Milan have it Sunday, with whistles and banners of contempt, and for most of a half the players had to swallow it.

Eventually the players took it out on Parma in a 3-0 beating that strengthened Milan's heretofore arthritic hold on the Italian championship. Milan increased its lead to eight points over Juventus with eight games left. Nonetheless, the boss was not pleased.

"It is wrong for the fans to act in this way," Silvio Berlusconi complained later, as the 80,000 seats emptied around him and a few alarming firecrackers went off nearby.

His anger was no match for theirs. The fans had pelted the team bus with stones when it arrived for the game — the sort of treatment normally reserved for visiting teams.

They were upset already by the historic strike postponing last weekend's games; then Milan was eliminated from the UEFA Cup by losing to Bordeaux, 3-0, on Tuesday, which extended its losing streak to two games (horrors!) after losing the derby with Internazionale two weeks ago.

Then, like the first shovelfull of dirt, Roberto Baggio missed a penalty.

It was awarded to him in the 11th minute, after Baggio appeared to hand down a pass from Mauro Tassotti, only to be tripped by the goalkeeper.

The referee put Baggio on the spot, where he faced the many banners complaining about Milan's weak-kneed performance at Bordeaux and harsh reminders of who pays the players' salaries (that is, not Berlusconi). The authors of such clever phrases leaned out from the balconies to see Luca Bucci dive casually to his left for the easiest save. Then the skies opened and rained fruit.

Baggio is the new symbol of Milan's problems. To have such a lead in the world's strongest championship, all opponents yearn for such problems; but Milan was lacking six players because of injury or illness, including five first-teamers, chief among them the Liberian George Weah, the world's leading striker. He suffered a broken hand Tuesday (one of three Milan players injured that night), underwent surgery Friday and might miss the next three weeks as well — all of which see Milan away from home.

So it falls upon Baggio to rescue the games that Weah's goals have been winning this season. But Baggio hasn't been himself; the star of the last World Cup isn't even certain of representing Italy in the European Championships this summer. When Baggio was seen consoling with the hapless midfielder Paolo Di Canio midway through the first half, the crowd literally retched.

"I couldn't imagine such behavior from the people in the stadium," said the Milan striker Dejan Savicevic. "It's just a matter of luck for Roberto, it's not his fault. I'm very happy for him."

This last bit he was able to say because he created Baggio's redeeming goal.

Milan is criticized for hoarding great players, but in shrill moments like this, Berlusconi can't have too many of them. Savicevic took on one Parma defender and then the other, though the teammates were but a stride or two apart — a few hard turns of Houdini's wrists and he was out of the handcuffs, delivering the easiest strike for Baggio, point-blank.

Two minutes into the second half Roberto Donadoni rambled down the right wing to ice the game at 2-0. Savicevic padded the lead with a 73d minute goal.

After the skittish opening minutes, the Milan defense coalesced and allowed practically nothing. Franco Baresi was bolstered by his fellow 36-year-old, Mauro Tassotti, and Filippo Galli, who is 33. Between them and Paolo Maldini, 27, the back four has played more than 1,300 games in the Italian championship.

"The three of us old players, we were playing together 10 years ago for Arrigo Sacchi at the beginning of the Berlusconi era," Galli said proudly.

The Parma coach, Nevio Scala, attributed the second-half collapse to his club's Winner's Cup defeat against Paris St. Germain just three days earlier. Scala had nothing to say about the reports he will be replaced next season by Fabio Capello, the Milan coach.

Capello offered a minority opinion. "The fans had every right to be upset with us," he said. That was easy for him: He's probably leaving.

Juventus Breaks Fiorentina's Unbeaten Run

Reuters

Fiorentina's 15-match unbeaten run was spoiled Sunday by a 1-0 home loss to Juventus. The victory lifted Juventus into second place in Serie A, a point above Fiorentina.

Juventus won on an own-goal from Lorenzo Amoruso, who deflected Michele Padovano's 28th minute free kick past his goalkeeper, Francesco Toldo. Within two minutes, Fiorentina was reduced to 10 men by the dismissal of Michele Serena.

Inter moved into fourth place, the highest position this season, after a 2-1 victory at Udinese. Davide Fontolan's superb 23d minute strike and Brazilian Roberto Carlos's 64th minute penalty secured Inter's sixth successive victory — achieved despite the 45th minute dismissal of England's Paul Ince.

ITALIAN SOCCER

Juventus, lifted by its midweek European Cup victory over Real Madrid, showed glimpses of its old championship-winning form.

Lazio dropped to sixth after its third successive defeat — 2-1 at Cremonese, for whom Andrea Tentoni scored twice.

Italian Cup finalists Atalanta staged a second-half comeback to bring Sampdoria's run of four successive home victories to a halt. David Balleri and Enrico Chiesa put Sampdoria two up before halftime, but Christian Vieri and Domenico Morfeo took advantage of defensive errors to level before Daniele Fortunato scored the decider seven minutes from time.

Serie A's top scorer, Igor Protti, hit his 18th goal of the season as Bari moved off the bottom with a 2-1 victory over Padova.

3 of the 4: Syracuse, UMass and Kentucky

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

Syracuse was in a zone Sunday, and now the Orangemen are in the Final Four for the first time since 1989.

Forcing Kansas into a miserable shooting game with a tight 2-3 zone, Syracuse upset the second-seeded Jayhawks, 60-57, to win the National Collegiate Athletic Association West Regional.

When Jacque Vaughn's last 3-point attempt clanged off the rim as time ran out, Syracuse players mobbed each other in celebration of their improbable NCAA tournament run.

Jason Cipolla made a free throw with 12.5 seconds left to give fourth-seeded Syracuse its final margin.

While Kansas managed to hold Syracuse's star, John Wallace, in check, the Jayhawks' desperately needed outside shooting eluded them. Kansas connected on only 4 of 25 3-point attempts.

The final shot by Vaughn was symbolic of the Jayhawks' utter inability to hit the long shot. Kansas had plenty of time to set up the final shot, but Vaughn did not get a good look at the basket as the Syracuse defense stretched out to deny the final points.

Kansas trailed 59-54 before Vaughn hit one of his team's few 3-pointers to pull the Jayhawks to within two with 13.3 seconds left. John Wallace then inbounded a pass to Cipolla, who was immediately fouled by Vaughn.

Cipolla, cut on the fingers of his shooting hand early in the game, missed the first free throw but made the second.

Kansas was held to 34.4 percent shooting by the Syracuse zone, which continually frustrated efforts to get the ball inside to the Jayhawks' big men.

Syracuse, meanwhile, got 15 points each from Wallace and Otis Hill as they got inside Kansas's man-to-man defense on numerous occasions for easy lay-ups.

Syracuse led by nine points at halftime, but Vaughn and Raef LaFrenz came out of the locker room looking to get Kansas back into the game. Diving for balls and flying through the lane, Vaughn and LaFrenz scored the first 15 points of the second half as Kansas roared back with an 18-5 run.

But in a 2-minute stretch late in the game with Syracuse holding a 54-52 lead, Kansas misfired badly on three straight possessions.

UMass 86, Georgetown 62 The University of Massachusetts took the art of defense to a new level Saturday, beating Georgetown in the NCAA East Regional final to advance to the Final Four for the first time in school history.

The Minutemen held the Hoyas' high-powered offense to its second-lowest scoring game of the season.

"That was shown — that they were a better team," said Allen Iverson, a Georgetown guard.

Massachusetts will meet Midwest Region champion Kentucky in a national semifinal Saturday in East Rutherford, New Jersey.

Iverson, a first-team All-American, carried the Hoyas in the first half, when he scored half the team's 34 points. At one point he scored nine straight points to help Georgetown come back from a 13-point deficit and trail by only four at halftime. But he missed his first seven shots of the second half and finished with 23 points on 6-for-21 shooting.

But the Minutemen's Marcus Camby, also a first-team All-American, took over at the start of the second half. He scored on a tip-in, two jumpers and a high-arcing bank shot over Jahidi White to help UMass get off to an 11-1 run. He finished with 22 points, seven rebounds and three blocked shots even though he committed his fourth foul with 12 minutes, 34 seconds remaining in the game and played only 28 minutes. Massachusetts barely needed him by that stage because his early spurt had given the Minutemen a double-digit lead for good.

"We just knew we had to pick it up," Camby said. "We were in the same position last year, so I took it upon myself to make it happen."

The Hoyas had 22 turnovers, 16 of which came on Massachusetts steals.

Senior center Othella Harrington was the only other Hoya to score in double figures, with 13 points. The team shot 35 percent for the game, including 28 percent in the second half.

Massachusetts is more than just Camby. Forwards Donta Bright and Dana Dingle had 17 points and 10 points, respectively, and Travieso had six three-pointers and 20 points. "Those guys were very unselfish and understood their roles," Harrington said. "Each of them just did their jobs tonight."

Kentucky 86, Wake Forest 63 In Minneapolis, the Kentucky Wildcats returned to a familiar position — with their feet on an opponent's throat for 40 minutes.

The Wildcats won their 32nd game of the season, easily slapping aside the Wake Forest Demon Deacons at the Midwest Regional final in the Metrodome.

Wake Forest fought valiantly, closing the gap in the final five minutes to 66-55.

But Kentucky had too many good players, too many varieties of its dreaded full-court trap, too much quickness, too much hustle and too much going its way for the Demon Deacons to withstand.

Entering the game, the Wildcats had won three games with an average of 52 percent floor shooting, 44 percent 3-point shooting, 26.3 assists, 13 steals, 20.7 turnovers forced and 98.3 points per game.

The Kentucky numbers on Saturday: 52.8 percent floor shooting, 63.6 percent 3-point shooting (7 of 11), 22 assists, 9 steals, 20 turnovers forced and 83 points.

Wake Forest was in way over its head.

It was evident in the fact that Kentucky earned four of the five spots on this region's all-tournament team, including guard Tony Delk, the region's most valuable player.

Delk scored 25 points Saturday and only missed 4 of 13 shots and only 2 of 6 3-pointers. Anthony Epps and Derek Anderson (12 points each) and Antoine Walker (9 points) were the other Wildcats on the all-tournament team.



Eric Miller/Reuters

Anthony Epps jumping on Wayne Turner after the Wildcats' victory.

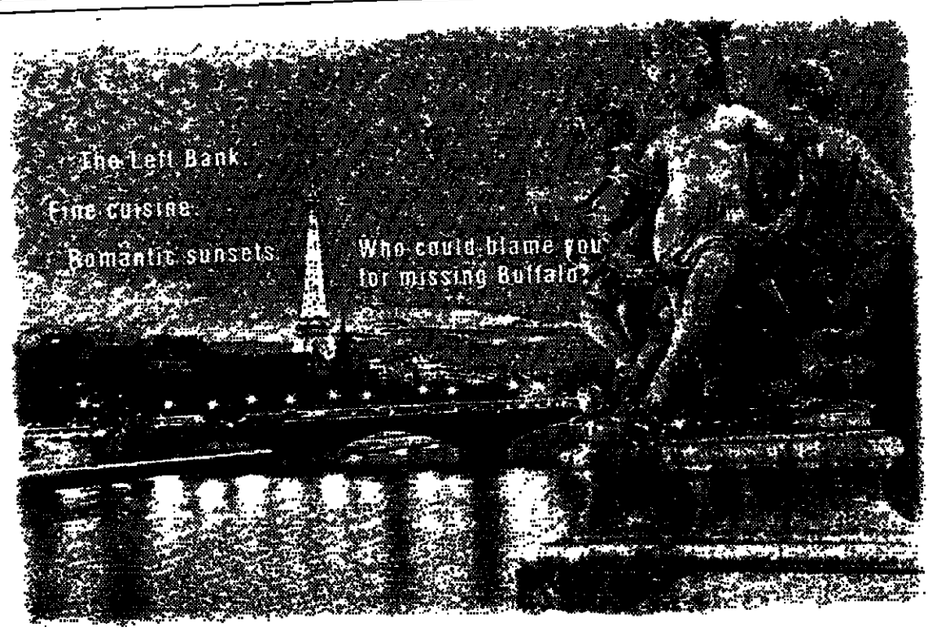
Tim Duncan, Wake's All-American center, was bottled up and then shut down. In the first half, whenever he touched the ball in the low post, he was double-teamed in a ferocious manner and bumped and pushed away from the goal.

"I could see he was getting frustrated," Walker said of Duncan. "He was looking around like he wanted to shoot, but he didn't take bad shots. He's a real team player."

Wake Forest took only 18 shots in the first half. Kentucky took 26.

The second half was much better for Wake, but the damage had already been done and it was too severe. Wake Forest would finish with 36.2 percent floor shooting. *(AP, WP, NYT)*

Earlier games, Page 21



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Germany	0130-0010
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Hungary*	00800-01111
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Ireland	1-800-550-000
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Luxembourg	0-800-0111
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Monaco*	19-0011
Netherlands*	06-022-9111
Norway	800-190-11
Poland†*	00-8-800-111-1111
Portugal†	05017-1-288
Romania*	01-800-4288
Russia*† (Moscow)	155-5042
Slovak Rep.*†	09-42-800-101
Spain◆	900-99-00-11
Sweden	020-795-611
Switzerland*	0-800-559011
Turkey*	00-800-12277
Ukraine†	80100-11
United Kingdom	0500-89-0011

MIDDLE EAST

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Cyprus* ■	800-00010
Egypt* (Cairo)†	510-0200
Israel	177-100-2727
Jordan ■	18 800 000
Kuwait ■	800-288
Lebanon (Beirut)*†† ■	426-001
Qatar ■	0800-011-77
Saudi Arabia ◆	1-800-10
Syria	0-801
U. Arab Emirates* ■	800-121

AFRICA

Gabon*	080-001
Gambia*	00111
Ghana	0191
Ivory Coast*	00-111-11
Kenya†	0800-10
Liberia	797-797
Morocco ■	002-11-0011
Sierra Leone	1100
South Africa	0-800-99-0123
Zambia◆	00-899
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